

P R A Y E R S

FOR THE USE OF

F A M I L I E S.

B Y

WILLIAM ENFIELD, LL.D.

K

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WITH ADDITIONS.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE reasonableness and utility of Family-Devotion are so evident, that the design of this work cannot need an apology. In the execution of it, the author has made it his first object, to express the most obvious religious sentiments in the most plain and simple language: for he apprehends, that without the utmost simplicity of diction, the frequent repetition of the same form of words must unavoidably become tiresome.

He acknowledges himself indebted to the Holy Scriptures, and other devotional writings, for a great part of the

ADVERTISEMENT.

materials from which this work is composed; and he hopes it will be thought a sufficient apology for any liberties of this kind he may have taken, that he has by this means been able to introduce a greater variety of expression, than if he had trusted entirely to his own abilities.

C O N T E N T S.

FIRST Week's Prayers Page 1 to 84.

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Forms of Intercession Page 179.

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givings Page 213.

N. B. *WHERE* this mark * occurs in the
Daily Prayers, the Forms of Intercession,
or Occasional Prayers, may be properly
introduced.

FIRST WEEK.



PRAYER

SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father
of our spirits, who art good,
whose mercy is everlasting,
and whose truth endureth unto all
generations! Unto thee will we lift up
our souls, and magnify thy name
together.

THOU hast made us and not we
ourselves; we are thy people, and the
children of thy family; we will serve
thee with gladness, and will come

B

into

into thy presence with thanksgiving:
we will give unto thee the glory due
to thy name.

WE praise thee, O God; we worship thee the most glorious and excellent Being, the Creator and Governor of all things visible and invisible. We acknowledge thee, the one, living and true God. Thou art God in heaven above, and on earth beneath, and throughout all worlds: there is none besides thee. Unto us there is but one God, to whom be glory for ever.

THOU alone art from everlasting, without beginning of days, or end of years: we magnify thee, the high and lofty One, who inhabitest eternity.

THOU art a spiritual and incorruptible Being; who dwellest in light inaccessible and full of glory; whom no man hath seen or can see. We
would

SUNDAY MORNING. 3

would worship thee, who art a spirit,
in spirit and in truth.

THOU dwellest not in temples made
with hands: the universe is thy tem-
ple; thou art present at all times in
every part of thy dominion.

THINE is the greatness, and the
power, and the glory, and the majesty;
all things in heaven and earth are
thine; thine is the kingdom, and thou
art to be worshipped as Lord over all.
Thou art great, and greatly to be
feared; thy greatness is unsearchable.

THOU art perfect in wisdom, won-
derful in counsel, and excellent in all
thy works. To thee, the only wise
God, be honour and glory for ever.

HOLY art thou, O God: thou art
of purer eyes than to behold iniquity;
thy countenance regardeth the upright.

Thy truth reacheth to the heavens; justice and judgment are the everlasting foundations of thy throne; just and true are all thy ways, O thou King of saints.

THOU art good, and doest good continually: the earth is full of thy goodness; and all thy works bear testimony to thy rich and overflowing bounty. Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from thee, the Father of all. Thy goodness is above all praise; extensive as thy works, and endless as eternity.

IN thee, O God, we live, and move, and have our being. Through the care of thy providence we continue to this day. It is of thy mercies that we are not consumed; it is because thy compassions fail not: they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. We have slept in safety, and are
risen

SUNDAY MORNING. 5

risen in peace; for thou hast sustained us. We rejoice in thy providence; and give thanks unto thee with our whole hearts.

IN a more especial manner, we bless thee, that thou hast still continued unto us the means of religion; and dost, from time to time, permit us to unite with our brethren in the public services of thy house. We esteem it good for us to draw near unto thee; and we desire, this day, to serve thee with reverence and godly fear.

MAY we shew forth thy praise, and acknowledge thy mercies, with thankfulness and joy. May we confess our sins with unfeigned sorrow, and steadfast purposes of amendment. May we offer up our supplications unto thee, with a humble confidence in thy wisdom and goodness, and with perfect charity towards all mankind. May we

receive instruction with meekness; lay it up in our hearts, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness in our lives. And may we so attend upon all the means of religion, that we may be established in thy fear, and confirmed in all goodness; and that we may, finally, attain everlasting perfection and happiness, in thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

SUNDAY EVENING.

P R A Y E R

F O R

SUNDAY EVENING.

O THOU great Parent of the universe, from whom all things proceed, on whom all creatures depend, and who art worthy of all possible veneration, gratitude, and obedience! We address ourselves unto thee, to declare our steadfast faith in thy being and providence; our joy in thy wise and righteous government; our thankfulness for thine innumerable mercies; our cheerful acquiescence in thine appointments; and

our cordial subjection to thine authority. We desire to employ our noblest powers and affections in the worship of thee, the greatest and best of all beings; and we trust that thou, who knowest our ignorance and weakness, wilt not reject the sincere homage of upright and humble minds.

WE acknowledge and worship thee, the Maker and the Lord of all. We revere the power which formed, and which continually upholds the earth, and the heavens, and all worlds. We admire the wisdom, which at first established the order of nature, and which constantly directs the vast concerns of the universe. We adore and love the goodness, which is manifested in all thy works, and which makes all thy creatures happy. We rejoice in the felicity of thy numerous offspring; and, as children of thy family, we unite with all our brethren, to give thanks

SUNDAY EVENING. 9

thanks unto thee, our common Parent,
for all thy mercies.

IN a more especial manner, we acknowledge, with unfeigned gratitude, the numberless blessings, which thou hast bestowed upon mankind.

FROM thee we have received the gift of life: to thee we are indebted for our animal, intellectual and moral powers: on thee we continually depend for the preservation of our being, and for all the happiness of our lives. The plentiful stores which nature provides for our support and defence, and for our convenience and pleasure, are the fruits of thy bounty. The relations of domestic life are thy wise and gracious appointment; and all the delights of mutual friendship and affection proceed from thy goodness.

To thy providence we owe the
establish-

establishment of civil society; the institution of wise and salutary laws; the progress of useful knowledge; the advantages of commercial intercourse; and all the improvements and delights of social life. From thee we derive all our opportunities of becoming acquainted with ourselves, and with thee our Maker; and of acquiring the habits, and enjoying the pleasures, of virtue and piety. To thee we are indebted for the instructions and examples of the wise and good; for the benefits of virtuous education; for the appointment of public worship; and for every advantage which we derive from the sacred institutions of religion.

WE acknowledge our unspeakable obligations to thee for the blessings of christianity; for the excellent rules of virtue which it prescribes; and

SUNDAY EVENING. 11

and for the powerful motives which it suggests to engage us to a steadfast perseverance in well-doing. It is through thine unchangeable and everlasting mercy, that we are made capable of extending our views and desires beyond this present life, and that we are inspired with the joyful and animating hope of immortality.

ALL happiness proceeds from thee; unto thee all praise and gratitude are due. For our past enjoyments, for our present felicity, and for our future hopes, we offer unfeigned thanks unto thee, the Father of mercies, and the Fountain of all good.

To the care of thy providence, O thou our merciful Parent, our constant Benefactor, and our best Friend, we commit ourselves and all our interests, Firmly persuaded, from the general order of nature, and from our own
daily

daily experience, that all things are directed by unerring wisdom and perfect goodness; we desire to banish all anxious cares and distressing fears from our hearts, and to pass through all the changes of this world with a peaceful and contented mind. Under the consciousness of our own ignorance and weakness, thy providence is our support; and under all our afflictions and troubles, thy goodness and mercy are our consolation and joy. We desire to receive all the good things of life with thankfulness, as the gifts of thy bounty; and patiently to submit to all its calamitous events, as the wise and righteous appointments of thy providence. We would enjoy the present felicity, whatever it may be, with a cheerful heart; and leave the events of futurity to thy direction, with a perfect confidence in thy goodness.

WHILST thou shalt see fit to continue

us

SUNDAY EVENING. 13

us in life, it is our earnest desire, and steadfast resolution, to answer the ends for which thou hast brought us into being, and to behave as becomes thy rational offspring. In the presence of each other, and before thee, the all-seeing and righteous Sovereign of the world, we do, at this time, form the most serious and deliberate purpose, to correct whatever hath been wrong in our past temper and conduct; to guard against covetousness, pride, anger, malice, envy, uncharitableness, and all vicious affections; to abstain from all irregular indulgence of our appetites and passions; and diligently to perform the several duties of life. We sincerely desire and firmly resolve, to behave with fidelity, prudence, and kindness in our domestic relations; to observe the laws of equity and honour, in all our transactions with our brethren; to be diligent in the business of our several stations; to maintain a grateful sense of

of the kindness of our benefactors and friends; to exercise a forgiving temper towards those who have injured or offended us; to shew compassion, and, as far as we have opportunity, minister relief, to such as are in affliction and distress; and, finally, to preserve our integrity, and persevere in the practice of universal righteousness, to the end of our lives.

WE appeal to thee, who knowest the secret thoughts of our hearts, to witness the sincerity of these our good resolutions. And we trust, that thou, the Almighty Friend and Guardian of the righteous, wilt grant us all needful instruction and assistance in the discharge of our duty; and wilt reward our sincere endeavours to do that which is right and good, with peace in our own minds; with the esteem of the wise and virtuous among our fellow-creatures; with the continual care and
blessing

SUNDAY EVENING. 15

— blessing of thy providence in this life;
and with perfect and endless felicity in
the life which is to come.

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WE address these our united devo-
tions unto thee, O Almighty and
Eternal God, with a humble hope of
thine approbation, and with a cheerful
reliance on thy mercy manifested unto
us through Jesus Christ our Lord. In
thine unchangeable perfections, and
supreme dominion, we rejoice; and
unto thee, the Father of all, we will
ascribe glory and honour for ever.

Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

MONDAY MORNING.

O LORD God Almighty, the
 Maker and Possessor of heaven
 and earth! We will praise thee with
 our whole hearts, and will shew forth
 thy wonderful works.

By thy word were the heavens made,
 and all the host of them by the breath
 of thy mouth. Thou didst say, Let
 there be light, and there was light.
 Thou hast placed the sun and moon in
 the heavens, to give light upon the
 earth,

MONDAY MORNING. 17

earth, and to rule over the day, and over the night. The heavens declare thy glory, and the firmament sheweth thine handy-work: day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge: there is no speech, nor language, where their voice is not heard. Thou makest the out-goings of the morning and evening to rejoice. Thou crownest the year with thy goodness.

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all. The heavens, and all their hosts; the earth, and all creatures that dwell upon the face thereof; the sea, and all that is therein, praise thee: all thy works, in all places of thy dominion, praise thee; and we thy servants desire, with our whole hearts, to bless and magnify thy name.

WE offer unto thee our unfeigned

C

thankf-

thanksgivings for the continual care of thy providence ; and, more especially, for our safe and quiet repose during the past night, and for the peaceful and happy circumstances, in which we appear before thee this morning. We thank thee, that, through thy goodness, we still continue to enjoy the blessings of this life, and the means of preparing for the life which is to come. We adore thine unchangeable and everlasting mercy ; and we desire to manifest our thankfulness, by devoting ourselves to thy service, and spending the remainder of our days in obedience to thy commands.

MAY we, at all times, maintain a devout sense of thy perfections ; love thee, the Author of all good ; be thankful unto thee for thy manifold mercies ; and put our whole trust in thy wise and good providence. May our hearts be established in thy fear and love.

IN

MONDAY MORNING. 19

IN all the relations of life, may we walk uprightly, and follow after righteousness. May we do unto others, as we would that they should do unto us. May we love one another, not in name and word only, but in deed and in truth. May we rejoice with them that rejoice, and weep with them that weep. May the law of kindness dwell upon our lips; and may we go about doing good.

TEACH us to keep our hearts with all diligence, and to order our whole conversation according to thy will. Preserve us free from envy, pride, covetousness, revenge and malice, and from all corrupt affections. May our minds be adorned with patience, meekness, humility, and all christian virtues; and may we bring forth the fruits of righteousness in our lives; that being acceptable in thy sight, we may finally become

C 2 partakers

partakers of that happiness, which thou hast provided for the righteous in the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

MONDAY EVENING. 21

P R A Y E R

F O R

MONDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, with whom is the fountain of life, and from whom cometh every good and every perfect gift! We thy servants call upon our souls, and all that is within us, to bless thy name for all thy mercies.

WE present unto thee our united thanks for the gift of life; for the excellent frame of our bodies; and for the noble powers of our minds.

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We

We praise thee, for our continual preservation, and for all the bounties of thy providence. We thank thee, for our daily bread; for the raiment with which we are cloathed; for healthful and fruitful seasons; and for all the supports and comforts of life. We ascribe to thy wise and good providence the success which hath attended our lawful undertakings; the advantages and pleasures of society and friendship; and the blessings of civil government.

WE thank thee for our moral and religious privileges, for the benefit of wise instructions and good examples, and for all our opportunities of improving in virtue and piety. Above all, we thank thee, that thou hast been graciously pleased to send thy Son Jesus Christ into the world, to instruct us in the knowledge of thy will, to guide our feet into the way of

MONDAY EVENING. 23

of peace, and to fill us with the joyful hope of everlasting life.

O God of mercy, who can declare thy mighty acts? who can shew forth all thy praise? If we would speak of thy mercies, they are more than can be numbered. We will give thanks unto thee as long as we live; every day will we bless thee; and we will praise thy name for ever and ever.

WHILST we acknowledge thy mercies with unfeigned thankfulness, it becometh us to confess, with humble and penitent hearts, that we have sinned against thee. We have disregarded thine authority, and offended against thy goodness. We sincerely lament our past ingratitude and disobedience. We desire to forsake every evil way, and would return unto thee with our whole hearts: and we humbly trust in thy mercy, declared unto us by Jesus Christ

our Lord, for the pardon of all our offences.

MAY our penitent acknowledgments of our past transgressions effectually restrain us from turning again unto folly : and may all our devotions produce in us the fruits of good-living, to the honour of thy name ; that, continually advancing in our likeness unto thee, the great object of our worship, we may, at length, be trained up to dwell with thee for ever, in thine heavenly kingdom.

WE humbly commit ourselves, and all our concerns, to the care of thy providence, through this night, and the remaining part of our lives. Behold thy servants, O God ; do with us what seemeth good in thy sight. Not our will, but thine, be done. We trust in thy wisdom and goodness, that thou wilt feed us with food convenient
for

MONDAY EVENING. 25

for us; and we desire, in whatsoever state we are, therewith to be content. In prosperity, may we be humble and thankful; and may we manifest our sense of thy goodness, by being always ready to shew kindness to our brethren. If affliction and trouble come upon us, may we neither despise thy chastening, nor faint when we are rebuked of thee: in the day of adversity, may we cast all our care upon thee, and possess our souls in patience. When thou shalt call us out of this life, may we leave the world in peace; and, after death, grant, merciful Father, that we may be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting; according to thy promises declared unto us by Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Now unto thee, the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

FOR

TUESDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God ;
whose power is infinite, whose
wisdom is unerring, and whose good-
ness is unchangeable and everlasting !
We thy servants bow before thee in
religious worship, and desire to render
unto thee the glory due to thy name.

ALL things proceed from thee, O
God ; and thou rulest by thy power
for ever. Thou doest whatsoever thou
pleapest in the armies of heaven, and
among

TUESDAY MORNING. 27

among the inhabitants of the earth.
Thy throne is established of old; thou
art from everlasting.

ALL nations whom thou hast made
shall come and worship before thee,
and shall glorify thy name; for thou
art great, and doest wondrous things;
thou art God alone.

WITH all creatures in heaven and
earth, we praise thee, the most high God,
the Lord of all, the universal King.

WE worship thee, the fountain of
good, whose tender mercies are over
all thy works. All creatures wait upon
thee, and thou givest them their meat in
due season: thou openest thine hand, and
satisfiest the desire of every living thing.
Thou causest grafs to grow for cattle,
and herb for the service of man: thou
givest food unto all flesh; and the
earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy
works.

works. O Lord our God, how excellent is thy name in all the earth !

WE praise thee, the Creator and Preserver of men. The wonderful frame of our bodies, is the work of thy hands ; and the powers of our minds, are the gifts of thy goodness. We are thine offspring ; we will praise thee for ever.

WE acknowledge and adore thy kind providence, which hath continually attended us, from the beginning of our lives unto this day. Thou didst preserve us, and provide for us, in the helpless state of infancy and childhood : thou hast guided us through the dangerous paths of youth : thou hast supplied our daily wants ; defended us from all danger ; and brought us to the present moment in peace and safety. Through the past night, thine eye hath been upon us for good ; and we appear
before

TUESDAY MORNING. 29

before thee, this morning, surrounded with the gifts of thy bounty. We rejoice in thy goodness, and will give thanks unto thee all the days of our lives.

ACCEPT, O merciful Father, our unfeigned thanksgivings: and teach us to manifest the sincerity of our gratitude, by the constant obedience of our lives; that we may, at all times, be happy in thy favour, both in this world, and that which is to come.

MAY we spend this day in the faithful discharge of the duties of our several stations, and in the innocent enjoyment of the good things of life. May we be in thy fear all the day long; and set thee always before us. May we love thee, our Father and Friend; and keep all thy commandments with our whole hearts.

IN

IN the several relations of domestic life, may we behave with fidelity, prudence, and discretion, and with undissembled good-will to each other. May we all be of one mind; have compassion one of another; and love as brethren. May we live together in love and peace; that thou, the God of love and peace, mayest be with us.

FINALLY, we pray, that all holy affections may be established in our hearts, and that our lives may be adorned with all good actions; that, while we live, we may enjoy the testimony of a good conscience, and the hope of thy favour; and that, after death, we may receive an everlasting reward in the kingdom of heaven; through thine infinite mercy, manifested unto us by Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

OUR

TUESDAY MORNING. 31

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come. Thy will be done on earth, as
it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil: for thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, for ever. Amen.

Most merciful and gracious
God! We thy servants present
ourselves before thee, this evening, to
render thanks unto thee for all thy
mercies; to confess our manifold trans-
gressions; to renew our good resolu-
tions; and to recommend ourselves
and all our concerns to the care of
thy providence, by which we are
preserved and favored.

We offer unto thee our unfeigned
prayer for our creation, and for

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

FOR

TUESDAY EVENING.

O MOST merciful and gracious God! We thy servants present ourselves before thee, this evening, to render thanks unto thee for all thy mercies; to confess our manifold transgressions; to renew our good resolutions; and to recommend ourselves, and all our concerns, to the care of thy providence.

WE offer unto thee our unfeigned thanksgivings for our creation, and for
all

TUESDAY EVENING. 33

all the powers of our nature. We thank thee for the supports and enjoyments of animal life, and for the pleasures of friendship, knowledge, and virtue. We bless thee for all the opportunities, which thou hast afforded us, for attaining the highest perfection and happiness of our nature; and more especially, for the advantages which we enjoy as disciples of thy Son Jesus Christ; for his holy and excellent precepts; for his pure and perfect example; and for the promise of thy mercy and of eternal life, which thou hast given us through him. We praise thee, O Lord, for thy goodness; and for thy wonderful works to the children of men.

WE acknowledge, before thee, who knowest the secrets of all hearts, that we are not worthy of the mercies which we have received at thy hands. In many things we have all offended.

D

Thou

Thou knowest our follies, and our sins are not hidden from thee: we confess them with unfeigned sorrow; we desire to walk before thee in newness of life; and we beseech thee, who despisest not the broken and contrite heart, to pardon all our iniquities. O God, be merciful unto us.

TEACH us to discern between good and evil; and enable us, in the midst of the temptations of the world, to hold fast our integrity, and to persevere in well-doing. May neither the hope of reward, nor the fear of suffering, ever lead us to do that which our consciences would condemn. May our hearts be pure and holy in thy sight; and may integrity and uprightness ever preserve us.

OUR outward circumstances in life we leave entirely to the disposal of thy providence. We commit ourselves to thy

TUESDAY EVENING. 35

thy protection, through the ensuing night, and the remainder of our days; with a steadfast persuasion, that, if it be consistent with thy perfect wisdom and goodness, thou wilt defend us from all evil, and continue unto us the comforts and blessings of life. But, whatever thou shalt see fit to appoint for us, we desire, at all times, patiently to submit to thy righteous will, and to place our whole confidence in thy goodness. Be merciful unto us, O God; be merciful unto us; for our hope is in thee. Leave us not, neither forsake us, O thou God of our salvation; but graciously think upon us for good, both now and for ever.

We present our humble supplications unto thee in behalf of our relations and friends. Protect them by thy power; guide them by thy wisdom; and bless them with thy favour, both in this world, and that which is to

36 PRAYER FOR

come. Reward the kindness of those who have, at any time, done us good : and, if there be any who have designed or done us evil, we beseech thee, Father of mercies, to forgive them.

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THESE our humble prayers we present unto thee, O God of mercy, in the name, and as the disciples, of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Now unto him, who is able to do more for us than we can ask or think, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

WEDNESDAY MORNING. 37

P R A Y E R

FOR

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who triest the heart, and
hast pleasure in uprightness!
We thy servants desire, at this time,
to bow before thee with pure hearts
and unfeigned devotion.

We acknowledge and worship thee,
the one universal Spirit, who art every
where present, and who knowest all
things. All creatures both in heaven
and earth, are continually under thine
inspection. None can hide themselves

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in

in secret places, where thou canst not see them. Thou weighest the spirits of all the children of men, and considerest all their ways, that thou mayest render unto them according to their works. O Lord, thou hast searched us, and known us. Thou dost compass our path, and art acquainted with all our ways: there is not a word in our tongues, but thou knowest it altogether: thou understandest our thoughts afar off.

WE give thanks unto thee, merciful Father, that thou hast been continually with us to do us good. Thy mercies, which are more than can be numbered, abundantly manifest, that thou art not far from any one of us. Thou hast upheld our souls in life, and made us to dwell in safety. Thou hast been our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Thou hast continually fed and clothed us, and hast given us richly

WEDNESDAY MORNING. 39

richly all things to enjoy. Thou hast preserved us through the past night, and brought us safely to the beginning of this day. When we lie down to rest, thou art our defence; and when we awake, we are still with thee.

WE rejoice in thy universal providence: we thank thee with our whole hearts for all thy mercies; and we desire, at all times, to live in thy fear, and in all our ways to approve ourselves unto thee. May the remembrance of thy presence restrain us from all secret wickedness, in thought, word, or deed, and make us steadfast in well-doing.

MAY we faithfully obey thy will, in the several relations in which thy providence hath placed us. May we behave with due respect and subjection to our superiors and rulers; with kindness and humanity to our inferiors;

and with uprightness and good-will to all men. May we shew compassion to such as are in distress; may we be thankful to our benefactors and friends; and may we forgive our enemies. Putting away far from us all bitterness, and wrath, and evil-speaking, with all malice, may we follow after the things which make for peace, and things by which we may edify one another. At all times, and in every condition, may we abhor that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good. We beseech thee, the fountain of all wisdom and strength, to make us perfect in every good work; that we may always do that which is well-pleasing in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it

WEDNESDAY MORNING. 41

it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

F O R

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY God, and most merciful Father, who art the rewarder of all them that diligently seek thee! We thy servants desire, at this time, with one heart and voice, to call upon thy name, and shew forth thy praise. We will declare thy goodness with thanksgiving, and bless thee for the numberless mercies thou hast bestowed upon us.

WE thank thee, that thou hast made us in thine own image, and given us
knowledge

WEDNESDAY EVENING. 43

knowledge and understanding. We praise thee, that thou hast daily supplied our wants by thy providence, and continually visited us with thy favour. We bless thee, above all, for thy great and unspeakable love, manifested unto mankind, by sending thy Son Jesus Christ into the world. We thank thee, that thou hast raised him up, to save us by turning us from our iniquities; to declare unto us the promises of thy forgiving mercy, upon repentance and newness of life, and of thy gracious assistance to help our infirmities; and to fill us with the joyful hope of an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away. All glory and honour, blessing and praise be unto thee, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Fountain of good, for ever and ever.

O God, who art full of long-suffering and forbearance towards the children

dren of men, we acknowledge that we have disobeyed thy laws, and been unmindful of thy goodness. We lament, with unfeigned sorrow, the errors and faults of our past lives ; we desire, with our whole hearts, to forsake every evil way ; and we humbly trust in thy mercy for the forgiveness of our sins. Have mercy upon us, O God, according to thy loving kindness ; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, pardon all our transgressions.

CLEANSE us, we beseech thee, from secret faults : keep back thy servants also from presumptuous sins ; let them not have dominion over us. Enable us to withstand the temptations of the world ; establish our hearts in thy fear ; and lead us in the way to life everlasting.

WE lift up our eyes unto thee, our heavenly Father, from whom alone
cometh

WEDNESDAY EVENING. 45

cometh our help, beseeching thee to defend us from all evil, this night, and to keep us under the care of thy providence through the remainder of our lives. Preserve us, O Lord; for in thee do we put our trust. We pray, if it be thy will, that no evil may befall us, nor any calamity enter our dwelling. But, if thou shalt see fit to afflict us, we desire patiently to submit to thine appointments; and so to improve our afflictions, that they may, at length, work together for our good. Be thou, O merciful Father, our guide through life, our support in death, and our portion for ever.

Look down with mercy upon all our relations and friends, according to their several necessities; particularly upon such as are in any kind of trouble or adversity; and grant unto them whatsoever thou, in thine infinite wisdom, shalt see to be best for them.

*

WE

WE offer these our prayers unto thee, O God of mercy, with a cheerful confidence in thine unerring wisdom and perfect goodness. We beseech thee to overlook the imperfection, and to accept the sincerity, of our devotions. Of thy great mercy, grant unto us such things as shall be good for us, though we may neglect to pray for them; and deny us such things as would be hurtful to us, though we should earnestly desire them. Order all things for us, as seemeth right in thy sight; and do us good, both now and evermore; according to thy promises declared unto us by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now unto God only wife be glory for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

THURSDAY MORNING. 47

P R A Y E R

THURSDAY MORNING.

O ALMIGHTY God! We acknowledge and worship thee, the greatest, the wisest, and the best of all beings.

THOU art from everlasting to everlasting. With thee there is no variableness, nor shadow of turning: thy counsel standeth for ever. Known unto thee, O God, are all thy works from the beginning of the world: by thee actions are weighed; and thou
searchest

48 PRAYER FOR THE NIGHT

searchest all hearts. Thou art the righteous Lord, who lovest righteousness, and whose countenance beholdeth the upright. Thou acceptest not the persons of men, nor regardest the rich more than the poor. Thou wilt render unto every man according to his works. Thou art good, and ready to forgive; and thy mercy endureth for ever.

WE thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for the multitude of thy tender mercies towards us. Thou hast brought us into life by thine almighty power; and hast continually watched over us by thy providence. Thou hast preserved us in safety, through the past night, and granted us the refreshment of quiet repose. Through thy goodness, we appear before thee, this morning, in health and ease; with the free use of our reason; and in the enjoyment of the blessings of life. What shall

THURSDAY MORNING. 49

shall we render unto thee, O Lord, for all thy benefits?

WE desire to shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; and to spend this day, and the remainder of our days upon earth, in a cheerful obedience to thy holy commands.

INCLINE our hearts unto thy precepts; and quicken us in thy way. Cleanse us from all hypocrisy and guile; and endue us with that simplicity, and godly sincerity, which are, above all things, well-pleasing unto thee. May our hearts be right in thy sight, that we may, at all times, have an humble confidence in thy mercy: and may we order our whole conversation according to thy will, that, at the last, we may receive thine approbation, and become partakers of eternal life.

E

IN

IN all our behaviour towards our fellow-creatures, may we be governed by the laws of justice and charity. May we love one another with pure hearts fervently, and do good unto all men as we have opportunity. May we shew compassion to those who are in trouble, and exercise forbearance and forgiveness towards our enemies: may we recompense to no man evil for evil; and may we be merciful, as thou, our Father in heaven, art merciful.

TEACH us to govern our own hearts aright, and to take good heed unto our ways. May we keep our tongues from evil, and our lips from speaking guile. May we not think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, but be cloathed with humility. May we be adorned with that meek and quiet spirit, which is in thy sight of great price. May we direct our affairs with discretion, and be temperate in all things.

THROUGH

THURSDAY MORNING. 51

THROUGH all the changes of our lives, may we be without covetousness, and be content with such things as we have. If thou shalt see fit to bless us with prosperity, may we receive the gifts of thy providence with thankful hearts; enjoy them with innocence and sobriety; and apply them to the relief of such as are in distress. May we endure the troubles of life with patience and resignation to thy will; that our afflictions may bring forth in us the fruits of righteousness, and may work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. When thou shalt call us out of this world, may we have the remembrance of a life spent in thy fear, and a good hope towards thee, to fill our hearts with peace and joy: and, after death, may we be received into thy heavenly kingdom, to dwell with thee, in life everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come. Thy will be done on earth, as
it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil: for thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, for ever. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING. 53

P R A Y E R

F O R

THURSDAY EVENING.

O MERCIFUL and gracious God,
the Fountain of all being and
happiness! We thy servants unite to
offer unto thee our humble thanksgiv-
ings, for all the good things which
thou hast done for the children of men.

WE acknowledge the wisdom and
goodness, which thou hast manifested
in our creation; and will glorify thee
with our bodies and spirits, which are
thine. We adore thy kind providence,

E 3

which

which hath brought us safely to the close of this day: and we thank thee for all our personal and family blessings; for all the enjoyments of society and friendship; and for every agreeable and happy circumstance of our lives.

IN a more especial manner, we bless thee for the kindness and love, which thou hast manifested unto us through Jesus Christ our Lord. We thank thee, that thou didst send him into the world to save us from our sins, and to lead us, by his holy doctrine and excellent example, to the love and practice of universal righteousness; and that, in obedience to thine authority, he gave himself up to death, that, being made perfect by suffering, he might become the author of eternal salvation to all them that obey him.

WE

THURSDAY EVENING. 55

WE rejoice in thine unchangeable and everlasting goodness; and acknowledge our transgressions before thee, with an humble hope of thy forgiving mercy. We have, in many instances, been disobedient and ungrateful to thee; neglected our duty towards our fellow-creatures; and followed the evil inclinations and desires of our own hearts. All our offences and faults are manifest in thy sight: we desire to confess them with contrite hearts, and to return unto thee in the way of well-doing. And we beseech thee, who hast taught us, that, if the wicked turn from his evil ways thou wilt have mercy on him, to receive our humble acknowledgments, and to forgive all our sins. Have compassion upon thy penitent creatures, and forsake not the work of thy hands.

GRANT unto us, merciful Father,
the spirit of wisdom and knowledge.

E 4

Teach

Teach us to judge aright concerning thee our Maker, and the duties which thou requirest of us; and let all religious truths deeply impress our hearts, and have a lasting influence on our behaviour. Assist us to subdue every vicious affection, and to withstand every temptation; that we may manifest the sincerity of our repentance by the steadfastness of our obedience; and that, not being weary of well-doing, we may finally obtain everlasting life.

O God, the protector of all them that put their trust in thee, we recommend ourselves and all our concerns to the care of thy providence, this night, and the remaining part of our lives. Withhold not thy tender mercies from us, but let thy loving kindness continually preserve us. May we be defended from all the dangers of
this

THURSDAY EVENING. 57

this night, and enjoy the blessing of quiet repose; and may we arise, in the morning, in health and peace, and spend the ensuing day in thy fear, Whilst thou shalt see fit to continue us in life, may we so fulfil the duties of our several stations, that, when thou shalt call us out of this world, we may be able to look forward into the world to come, with a joyful hope of immortality. And, when our flesh and heart shall fail, be thou, O God, the strength of our hearts, and our portion for ever.

WE humbly beseech thee, gracious Father, to bless all our relations and friends, according to their several circumstances; and more especially to shew compassion to such as are in pain and sickness, or in any kind of adversity.

*

GRACIOUSLY

58 PRAYER FOR

GRACIOUSLY receive these our humble prayers, which we offer unto thee, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour; through whom be ascribed unto thee, the Father Almighty, everlasting praises, Amen.

PRAYER

FRIDAY MORNING. 59

P R A Y E R

FOR

FRIDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who hast made the heavens, and the earth, and who givest unto all creatures life, and breath, and all things! We thy servants reverence thine infinite perfections, and praise thee with our whole hearts.

GREAT and marvellous are thy works, O Lord God Almighty! Thy hands have stretched forth the heavens; and thou commandest all their hosts.

By

By thine appointment, the sun ariseth, and man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour, until the evening. Thou hast established, and dost continually preserve the regular succession of day and night, summer and winter, seed-time and harvest. The heavens and the earth remain unto this day, according to thine ordinance; for all things serve thee,

THE birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, and the cattle upon a thousand hills, are thine: thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created; thou renewest the face of the earth: thou openest thine hand; they are filled with good. The earth is thine, O God, and the fulness thereof.

WE present unto thee, merciful Father, our united thanks, for the protection of thy providence, which hath continually attended us; more especially,

FRIDAY MORNING. 61

especially, for the secure and refreshing repose of the past night ; for our present ease and health ; and for the prospect of spending this day in peace and comfort. We ascribe all our enjoyments, and all our hopes, to thy fatherly goodness, and tender mercy : we will praise and magnify thy name ; and love and serve thee, all the days of our lives.

WE desire to manifest our thankful sense of thy goodness, by diligently hearkening unto thy voice, and by doing always that which is right in thy sight. May no iniquity have dominion over us ; but may we be in continual subjection to thee, the Father of our spirits ; living in all good conscience before thee, and serving thee with all humility of mind.

TEACH us, O God of mercy, to imitate thy goodness, in all our behaviour

viour towards our fellow-creatures. May we be upright in our dealings; may we be faithful and affectionate towards our friends; may we walk within our house with perfect hearts; and, in every relation and condition of our lives, may it be our desire and delight to do good; that, by the exercise of all kind affections, and the performance of all good actions, we may answer the end of our being in this present life, and be prepared for that world, where love and peace will reign for evermore.

ASSIST us, we beseech thee, to maintain a constant rule over our own spirits. May we be gentle, shewing meekness towards all men, and learn of him who was meek and lowly of heart, that we may find rest unto our souls. May we take good heed to our ways, that we offend not with our tongues. May we speak evil of no man;

FRIDAY MORNING. 63

man; may no corrupt affections remain in our hearts; and may we be holy in all manner of conversation.

DELIVER us, O gracious Father, from the power of sinful habits; from the snares of the wicked; and from the influence of evil examples: and enable us to walk before thee, all our days, in purity of heart and life; that, at length, we may be prepared for an eternal abode in thine heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

FOR

FRIDAY EVENING.

O GOD, the Father of mercies,
the God of love and of all consolation ! We thy servants unite to
present unto thee our unfeigned thanks,
for all thy goodness and loving kindness
to the children of men.

WE thank thee, that thou hast created us in thine own image ; made us
capable of knowledge and wisdom ;
endued us with social affections ; implanted in our hearts a sense of good
and

and evil ; and called us to the fear and love of thee, the greatest and best of all beings. We praise thee for our continual support, and for all the comforts of our lives. Thou givest us healthful and fruitful seasons, and fillest our hearts with food and gladness. Blessed be the Lord, even the God of our salvation, who daily loadeth us with benefits !

ABOVE all, we thank thee, for thy great mercy, in sending thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ into the world, to instruct us by his excellent doctrine ; to guide us by his perfect example ; and to fill us with the joyful hope of eternal life. Thou hast been mindful of us and blessed us : thou hast dealt bountifully with us, and done great things for us. We will bless thee at all times ; thy praise shall be continually in our mouths.

WE acknowledge before thee, O God, who rulest the children of men with wisdom and goodness, that we have not duly improved thy manifold mercies. Though thou hast nourished and brought us up as children, we have sinned against thee. We desire to forsake all our evil ways, and to return unto thee with our whole hearts: and we humbly beseech thee, who art slow to anger and ready to forgive, that thou wouldest pardon all our transgressions. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us; and grant us thy salvation.

LEAD us by thy gracious hand in the path of our duty; and, in the time of temptation, let thy good spirit be with us, to keep us from falling. May our minds be purified from all sinful affections; may falsehood and deceit have no place in our words; and, in all our ways, may we obey thy commandments; that, being holy in thy

FRIDAY EVENING. 67

thy sight, we may obtain thy favour, and may, finally, be received into thine everlasting kingdom.

TAKE us, merciful Father, under thine almighty protection, through this night, and the remaining part of our lives: prepare us for all the events which may hereafter befall us; and enable us, under all the changes of this world, to hold fast our integrity, and do that which is right in thy sight. If, through thy kind providence, we spend our days in prosperity, may we beware lest we forget thee in our abundance: may we not be high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in thee the living God: may we be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for ourselves a good foundation against the time to come, that we may lay hold on eternal life. If thou shalt see fit to visit us with afflictions, may

we bear them with patience and resignation to thy will; and may they increase our compassion for the distresses of our fellow-creatures, and our diligence in preparing for our departure out of this world. Under all the troubles of life, may the consolations of religion sustain our spirits: and, in the hour of death, let thy mighty power support us, and let thy mercy, O God, be upon us. Command thy blessing upon thy servants, even life for evermore.

WE pray unto thee, O gracious God, in behalf of all our friends. Supply their wants out of the stores of thy bounty: let thy watchful providence evermore defend them from evil; and let thy goodness and mercy follow them all the days of their lives.

*

WE

FRIDAY EVENING. 69

WE address our united devotions unto thee, the giver of all good things, in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ.

Now to the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, dwelling in light to which no man can approach, whom no man hath seen, or can see, be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

P R A Y E R

SATURDAY MORNING.

EVER blessed and glorious God! We worship thee, who art exalted above all blessing and praise, and who livest and reignest one God for ever.

THOU art the Lord who changest not: thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. Thou doest whatsoever thou pleasest, in the heavens, and in the earth, and in all places. Thou art righteous in all

SATURDAY MORNING. 71

all thy ways, and holy in all thy works. Thou exercisest loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth; for in these things dost thou delight.

WE will greatly rejoice in thee, O Lord; our souls shall be joyful in our God. We adore thy wisdom and goodness, which are continually manifested in the government of the world; and we bless thee for every instance of thy loving kindness to the children of men.

ACCEPT, merciful Father, our unfeigned thanksgivings for all our powers of body and mind; for every favourable circumstance in our birth and education; for the continual care of thy providence; for the safe repose of the past night; for all our opportunities of improving in knowledge and goodness; and, above all, for the

bleſſed hope of immortality, confirmed unto us by Jeſus Chriſt.

ALL theſe bleſſings proceed from thee, the Fountain of good; we will praiſe thee, and not be ſilent; we will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, for ever and ever.

WE deſire to teſtify the ſincerity of our gratitude, by the ſteadfaſt and cheerful obedience of our lives. May we acknowledge thee in all our ways; and may thy fear be in our hearts, that we may not ſin againſt thee, May we, at all times, remember that we are under thine eye, and accountable to thee for all our actions; that we may maintain that integrity of heart, and purity of converſation, which alone can give us confidence towards thee, May we honour and reverence thee, our Father and Lord; and put our whole

.SATURDAY MORNING. 73

whole trust in thee, our best and most faithful Friend. May we walk in all thy commandments and ordinances blameless; and serve thee with a perfect heart, and a willing mind.

ENLARGE our hearts, we beseech thee, with good-will to mankind; and dispose us to do good, as far as we are able, to all our fellow-creatures. May we be honest in our dealings; sincere in our professions; and steadfast to our engagements. May we love and esteem our benefactors and friends; and never forget their kindness to us all the days of our lives. If we have enemies, who hate us without cause, may we behave towards them with forbearance and meekness. May revenge and malice have no place in our hearts; but may the remembrance of our own weakness, always dispose us to overlook the faults of others. May we
not

not be overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

TEACH us to take heed unto ourselves, and ponder the path of our feet, that all our ways may be established. May we not enter into the path of the wicked, nor go in the way of evil men, lest we become partakers of their sins. May we walk circumspectly, and keep ourselves unspotted from the world; and may we abound in all the fruits of righteousness; that our light may so shine before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify thee our Father in heaven; and that, when we have done thy will on earth, we may receive an everlasting recompense in thine heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come,

SATURDAY MORNING. 75

come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

F O R

SATURDAY EVENING.

O GOD, who art nigh unto them that call upon thee, to all who call upon thee in truth! We thy servants present ourselves before thee, to acknowledge our dependence upon thy providence, and to render thanks unto thee for all thy mercies.

WE thank thee, that thou hast called us into being, to enjoy the gifts of thy bounty, and to be thy ministers for good unto our fellow-creatures. We
praise

SATURDAY EVENING. 77

praise thee for all the powers of our nature, and for all the enjoyments of our lives ; more especially, for the social affections which thou hast implanted within us ; for the agreeable relations in which thou hast placed us ; for the opportunities which thou hast afforded us of doing good ; and for all the pleasures which flow from society and friendship.

WE thank thee, above all, for the spiritual blessings which thou hast bestowed upon us through Jesus Christ our Lord ; for the knowledge of thy truth ; for the promise of thy mercy ; and for the hope of everlasting life.

BECAUSE thy loving kindness is great, and thy compassions fail not, our lips shall praise thee. Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens ; and praised be thy glorious name for ever and ever.

O MER-

O MERCIFUL Father, who art slow to anger, and ready to forgive, and who dwellest with him that is of an humble and contrite spirit; we acknowledge our manifold transgressions with sorrow of heart, and unfeigned repentance. We have been drawn aside into folly by our own corrupt affections. We have been led astray by the power of evil example. We have sinned and perverted that which is right, and it profiteth us not. Our consciences witness against us. We beseech thee, who delightest in mercy, to grant unto us the pardon of all our sins; and to enable us to turn from our evil ways, and to bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

MAY no iniquity remain within us; and may the purity of our hearts be always manifested by the innocence of our lives. May we deny ungodliness, and worldly lusts, and live soberly, righteously,

SATURDAY EVENING. 79

righteously, and piously in this present world. Laying aside all guile and hypocrisy, and renouncing the hidden things of dishonesty, may we serve thee with singleness of heart, and have our conversation in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity. At all times, and in every condition, may we do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thee.

THROUGH all the changes of this life, may we hold fast our integrity, and not let it go; that our hearts may not reproach us, so long as we live. If, through thy goodness, we increase in riches, may we remember thee, who givest power to get wealth, and serve thee with thankfulness and gladness of heart in the abundance of all things. And, having freely received, may we freely give; ministering of our abundance to the necessities of our brethren, as good stewards of the manifold

manifold grace of God. If thou shalt see fit to bring affliction upon us, may we learn wisdom and righteousness by the things which we suffer. Firmly persuaded that whatever thou art pleased to appoint for us is wise and good, may we bear every disappointment, and pass through every trouble, with a patient and contented mind; and may we, at all times, enjoy ourselves in peace, under the care of thy providence. Let all the events of our lives work together to establish us in goodness; and may we be so conducted through this present world, that we may, at length, be prepared for the enjoyment of perfect and eternal happiness, in the world to come.

WE thank thee, the great Preserver of men, that thou hast brought us to the close of this day, in safety and peace; and we humbly commit ourselves to thy protection through the ensuing

SATURDAY EVENING. 81

ensuing night, and the remaining part of our lives. We beseech thee to bless us, and keep us; to lift up the light of thy countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore; * according to thine abundant mercy, manifested to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now unto God, the Father of all the families of the earth, be thanksgiving and honour, blessing and praise, for ever. Amen.

2019-2020

SECOND WEEK.

SECOND WEEK

P R A Y E R

FOR

SUNDAY MORNING.

O EVER blessed and most glorious God, the object of supreme veneration, before whom all creatures bow! We present ourselves before thee, to offer thee our humble tribute of religious homage.

WE praise thee, O God; we worship thee, the one, true, and living God, who art unchangeable in all thy perfections.

G 3

THOU

THOU art King of kings, and Lord of lords ; the blessed and only Potentate, the Creator and Preserver of all things. Thou didst speak, and the world was made ; thy providence supports the works of thy hands ; and the happiness of thy creatures is the end of all.

BEFORE the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting thou art God. Thou livest and reignest for ever.

THOU art the Lord, who changeest not. Of old hast thou laid the foundations of the earth ; and the heavens are the work of thy hands : these shall perish, but thou shalt endure : thy counsel standeth fast, and thy thoughts unto all generations.

WE adore and worship thee, a pure
and

SUNDAY MORNING. 87

and spiritual Being, whom no man hath seen, or can see. Thou passest by us on every side, but we behold thee not; thou workest wonders on the right hand, and on the left, but we do not perceive thee.

WHITHER can we flee from thy presence? Heaven is thy throne, and the earth thy footstool. The universe is thy habitation. All things are full of thee.

WHO can withstand thy power? At thy presence, the earth trembleth, and the mountains shake from their foundations. Thou doest whatsoever thou pleasest in the armies of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the world. With thee, the Lord our God, is everlasting strength.

THOU hast founded the earth by thy wisdom, and stretched out the heavens

by thine understanding. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all.

THOU art the righteous Lord, who exerciseſt judgment in the earth. Eternal truth is thy law. Upright art thou, O Lord, and all thy works are juſt and true.

HOLY and reverend is thy name: thou art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity. Sinners cannot ſtand before thee; but the upright in heart are always in the light of thy countenance.

WE praise thee, the Lord God gracious and merciful, the God of love and of all conſolation. Thou delighteſt to make thy creatures happy: thou doeſt good continually; and thy tender mercies are over all thy works. We will give thanks at the remembrance of thy goodneſs.

BUT

SUNDAY MORNING. 89

BUT who, O Lord, can shew forth all thy praise? We behold the monuments of thy power; we trace the footsteps of thy wisdom; and, every moment of our lives, partake of the riches of thy goodness: but none can say, how great, and wise, and good, thou art. Who can find out thee, the Almighty, unto perfection?

WE adore thy condescending goodness, that, though infinitely exalted in majesty and power above our conceptions, thou hast revealed thyself unto us as the rewarder of all them that diligently seek thee, and hast taught us that the prayer of the upright is thy delight. We thank thee for the institutions of religion, and for the opportunities which we from time to time enjoy, of uniting with our brethren in the public acts of devotion.

WE desire this day to remember thee,

thee, our Creator, Preserver, and Benefactor, with fear, love, and gratitude; to offer up our supplications with faith in thy providence, submission to thy will, and sincere resolutions of obedience to thy laws; and to hearken to religious instruction with attention and humility.

MAY we keep a watchful guard over ourselves, while we are employed in the important duties of thy house, that no vain thoughts may interrupt our attention, and that no unworthy objects may withdraw our affections. May our whole hearts be engaged in thy worship; may we serve thee with freedom and delight; and may the influence of these our religious services be abundantly shewn forth in the actions of our lives. By a devout attendance upon the means of religion, may we be continually improving in all pious affections and virtuous habits,
till

SUNDAY MORNING. 91

till at length we shall be prepared to dwell in thy heavenly kingdom, and to worship thee in a more perfect manner through the ages of eternity.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

F O R

SUNDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and Eternal God!
We acknowledge thine infinite
perfection, and supreme dominion;
and will unite with one heart and voice
to shew forth thy praise.

ALL things proceed from thee, O
God; and thy presence is the life of
the world. The whole creation is
subject to thy controul; and through-
out universal nature thou doest what-
soever thou pleasest. The voice of
wisdom

wisdom speaketh in all thy works;
truth and righteousness continually
wait before thy throne; goodness and
mercy enlighten thy countenance for-
ever.

WE the creatures of thy power, and
children of thy family, praise thee
with our whole hearts, that thou hast
called us into being, not only that we
might partake of the gifts of thy pro-
vidence, but that we might contem-
plate the wonderful displays of thy
perfections, revere thy power, admire
thy wisdom, and love thy goodness.
We thank thee, that thou hast made
us capable of distinguishing between
good and evil; and hast taught us to
seek our chief happiness, in the exer-
cise of virtuous affections, and in the
imitation of thee, the most glorious
and excellent of all beings.

WE bless thee, O thou great Governor
of

of the world, for that watchful providence, which thou hast continually exercised over us, and for the liberality with which thou hast provided for us. In all our dangers thine eye hath been upon us for good; and under every calamity, thou hast stretched forth thy hand for our relief. Thou hast daily granted us the necessary supplies for the preservation of our lives, and given us our meat in due season. To thy goodness we are indebted for the pleasures which we derive from mutual intercourse and affection; from the pursuit and attainment of knowledge; and from the practice of virtue.

WE present unto thee our unfeigned thanks, for our religious privileges. We praise thee, for all the dispensations of thy providence in support of religion; for the instructions and examples of wise men, whom thou
hast

SUNDAY EVENING. 95

hast raised up at sundry times, and in divers places, to turn men from idolatry, to the knowledge, worship and obedience of thee, the one true God; and more especially for thy condescending goodness, in having appointed thy Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world. We bless thee for the just and rational ideas which he hath communicated to mankind concerning thy nature and government; and for his plain and useful instructions concerning the worship and obedience which thou requirest from thy creatures.

WE thank thee, for the opportunities which thou hast this day afforded us, of calling upon thy name and hearing thy word.

WE rejoice in the blessed hope, set before us in the gospel of Christ, that
we

we shall hereafter join the glorious society of just men made perfect, and unite with them in performing the exalted services, and in partaking of the endless felicities of thy heavenly kingdom.

O God, the Father of mercies, the Maker and Judge of all men! We recollect with shame the numerous instances in which we have offended thee; and would acknowledge our sins in thy presence with unfeigned penitence. In the general course of our lives, we have not maintained a becoming reverence for thine authority, or regard to thy providence. In the duties of religion, we have not been duly humble, serious, and devout. We have not observed, as we ought, the laws of equity and charity in our conduct towards our brethren, or the rules of wisdom and virtue in the government of ourselves.

WE

SUNDAY EVENING. 97

WE beseech thee, who art long suffering and gracious, slow to anger, and ready to forgive, that thou wouldst pardon all our transgressions. And whilst we supplicate the forgiveness of our past sins, it is our earnest desire and humble prayer, that no temptation may for the future prove too powerful for us. May neither the allurements of vicious pleasure draw us into guilt; nor the difficulties of a virtuous course deter us from the practice of our duty. To whatever trials our integrity may be exposed, may we have wisdom and resolution to preserve it uncorrupted; that, having endured temptation, we may receive the crown of eternal life, which thou hast promised to them that love thee.

O God, the Fountain of wisdom, enlighten us, we beseech thee, with the true knowledge of thyself; preserve us from all unworthy apprehensions

H

hensions of thy nature and government; and teach us, at all times, to acknowledge and revere thee, as beyond our utmost conceptions, great, and wise, and good.

IN the performance of the solemn acts of devotion, may we never fail to accompany the external expressions of piety with correspondent internal sentiments: and through our whole lives may we maintain an habitual temper of religious veneration, gratitude and submission. May we not consider our religious services as a substitute for a virtuous character, but as the means of supporting and improving it. May our religion be a practical principle in our hearts, dictating all our words, and governing all our actions. Under its influence may we deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and live soberly, righteously and piously in this present world. In the
several

SUNDAY EVENING. 99

several relations of domestic and social life, may we show, by an honest, upright and generous behaviour, that we are religious, not in name and word only, but in deed and truth; that we may be ornaments to the religion which we profess, and may be prepared, at the close of our lives, to resign ourselves into the hands of our Maker, with peaceful reflections, and joyful hopes, looking for thy mercy unto eternal life.

WE resign ourselves, O gracious Father, entirely to thy direction, and leave all our interests in thy hands, with an humble hope, that thy mercy will never forsake us, and that thou wilt cause all things to work together for our good. We cheerfully depend upon thy providence, for protection through the ensuing night; for the supply of our daily wants; and for that share of the good things of life, which thou knowest to be best for us.

H 2

We

We desire to receive all thy mercies with thankfulness, and to enjoy them with innocence and moderation: we would patiently submit to thy will under all the afflictions of our lives: and we humbly pray, that we may so pass through the changes of this world, as, finally, to be prepared for the enjoyment of perfect and eternal happiness in the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Now unto thee, O God, the Father of all, be ascribed everlasting praises. Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

F O R

MONDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies! We praise thee with our whole hearts; and will give thanks at the remembrance of thy goodness.

IN thy hand is the life of every creature, and the breath of all mankind. We bless thee, O ever bountiful and most gracious God, for the continual preservation of our lives; for thy watchful providence which hath attended us through the past night;

H 3

and

and for the peaceful and happy circumstances in which we now appear before thee. Our food and raiment, and all our domestic and social enjoyments, are the daily gifts of thy bounty. Thou givest us healthful and fruitful seasons, and fillest our hearts with joy and gladness.

WE praise thee, O Lord, for thy goodness, and for thy wonderful works to the children of men. We acknowledge ourselves under indispensable obligations to express our gratitude to thee, the Giver of all good, by the constant obedience of our lives; and we at this time renew our resolutions, to employ all our powers in thy service.

O God, the unchangeable and everlasting Fountain of life, perfection and happiness, the greatest, wisest and best of beings! From the contemplation of thy works, may we daily increase in
the

MONDAY MORNING. 103

the knowledge of thee, and attain to more pure and worthy conceptions of thy nature and providence; and may we ever manifest a becoming reverence for thy perfections, and a just concern for the support of true religion both in ourselves and others. Under a due sense of thine almighty power, we would avoid thy displeasure as the worst of evils. From a full persuasion that thou art wise in counsel, faithful in thy promises, and righteous in all thy ways, we repose an unreserved confidence in all the measures of thy providence. As a Being perfectly good, we would love thee with all our hearts, and rejoice in thine universal government. Above all, we desire to yield a cheerful obedience to thy commandments; that, by the persevering love and practice of righteousness, we may be prepared for that heavenly inheritance which is incorruptible and fadeth not away.

H 4

O God,

O GOD, who art love, and who dwellest in love! We earnestly desire to imitate thy constant and universal goodness. May we behave in our several stations with integrity and benevolence; and discover the true spirit of piety and goodness in all the relations of life. May we walk within our house with perfect hearts; be faithful and affectionate to our friends; and just and charitable to all men. May we put on the ornament of a meek, compassionate and forgiving temper; and may every good and generous disposition be daily improving in our breasts, till we become fit for that world, where love and peace will reign for ever.

O GOD of wisdom, teach us the knowledge of ourselves. May we keep our hearts with all diligence, and, amidst the trials and changes of this world, maintain a constant habit of self-

MONDAY MORNING. 105

self-government. In prosperity, may we be humble, temperate, and charitable; in adversity, patient and wholly resigned to thine unerring providence. Save us, O gracious God, from anger and malice; from revenge, and uncharitableness; from pride and presumption; from the snares of the wicked; and from the influence of evil examples. Give us prudence, to direct our affairs; resolution, to preserve our innocence; and wisdom and constancy, to retain our integrity as long as we live; that, having faithfully obeyed thy will on earth, we may receive the everlasting rewards of obedience promised unto us by Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come. Thy will be done on earth, as
it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily

daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil: for thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, for ever. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING. 107

P R A Y E R

F O R

MONDAY EVENING.

O MERCIFUL and gracious God !

It is a good thing to give thanks unto thee, and to praise thy name, O thou most high ! We thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for the innumerable mercies thou hast bestowed upon us.

We acknowledge with gratitude and joy the gift of life. Thine almighty voice hath called us into being ; and thy hand hath placed us in this part of
thy

thy glorious works. We thank thee for the wise and useful frame of our bodies, and for the noble powers of our minds. We thank thee, that we are capable of contemplating the beauty of thy works, and the wonderful order of thy providence; and of attaining to the knowledge and love of thee, the Creator of the world, and the Author of all good. We thank thee, that thou hast implanted in us a sense of good and evil, and the amiable affections of benevolence and compassion; and hast formed us for the enjoyment of that happiness which arises from the practice of virtue.

WE bless thee, O merciful Father, that thy goodness to mankind is not confined to this present world; but that thou hast awakened in us the joyful expectation of immortality. We thank thee for the instructions and examples of wise and good men in every age;
and

MONDAY EVENING. 109

and for every opportunity of improving in knowledge and virtue, and preparing ourselves for everlasting life.

ABOVE all, we praise and magnify thee, for the rich display of thy goodness in the manifestation of thy Son Jesus Christ, whom thou hast raised up to bless mankind by turning them from their iniquities. We thank thee, that in his perfect doctrine thou hast given us thy heavenly truth, to enlighten our minds, sanctify our hearts, and guide our feet in the way of peace; and that in his holy life thou hast set before us an example of the most exalted virtue, to animate us in well-doing. We rejoice in the exceeding riches of thy grace, that thou hast appointed thy Son Jesus Christ, to declare unto us the promises of thy forgiving mercy upon repentance and newness of life, and of thy gracious influence to help our infirmities; and
to

to become the Author of eternal salvation to all those who obey him.

To thee, the Lord our God, belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have sinned against thee. With humble and penitent hearts we will confess our manifold transgressions before the throne of thy heavenly grace. In many things we have all offended. We have not behaved as thy children, and the disciples of our blessed Saviour. We have not duly improved the talents with which thou hast intrusted us. We have, in many instances, neglected our duty, and departed from the path of thy holy commandments. We lament before thee, O our Father, every offence against thee, our neighbour, or ourselves. If we have been injurious, unjust, or have dealt deceitfully; if we have forgotten thy great loving kindness, and departed from our character as men and as christians; forgive our
fins,

MONDAY EVENING. 111

finis, we beseech thee, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Behold with compassion thy penitent creatures. Thou knowest our frame; thou rememberest that we are but dust: be merciful unto us, O God, be merciful unto us. And let thy goodness lead us to bring forth the fruits which are meet for repentance; that, having faithfully obeyed thy will on earth, we may finally become partakers of eternal life.

WE recommend ourselves, and all our concerns, O most merciful Father, to the disposal of thy providence, through this night, and the remainder of our lives. Thou knowest what is truly good for us; and it is our highest happiness, that we are under thy fatherly care. In humble submission to the appointments of thine unerring wisdom, we beseech thee to continue to us the use of our understanding
and

and reason; to bless us with health and peace; and to bestow upon us such a share of the good things of this life, as thou knowest to be best for us. Conduct us by thy gracious hand through all the changes of this world; and bring us at last to the regions of perfect and endless happiness.

WE address all our devotions unto thee, the Father of mercies, in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PRAYER

TUESDAY MORNING. 113

P R A Y E R

F O R

TUESDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God! We worship thee, the Creator and the Lord of all.

THE earth is thine, and the fulness thereof. All things that we behold shew forth thine existence, and declare thy perfections. We acknowledge thy supreme dominion, and unrivalled majesty; and we bless thy name for thy condescending goodness and tender mercy. Who is like unto thee, O
I Lord

Lord our God, who dwellest on high, who humblest thyself to behold the things that are done in heaven and in the earth ?

THOU lookest from heaven, and beholdest all the sons of men ; thou considerest all their works : thou fittest upon the throne of thy holiness judging righteously : the heavens declare thy righteousness, and all the people see thy glory. Thou keepest truth for ever : thou executest judgment for the oppressed ; thou givest food to the hungry ; thou preservest the stranger ; thou raisest the poor out of the dust ; thou healest the broken in heart, and bindest up their wounds ; thou relievest the fatherless and widow ; and thy mercy endureth for ever.

How excellent is thy loving kindness, O God ! Therefore do the children of men put their trust in thee.

WE

TUESDAY MORNING. 115

WE present unto thee our humble thanksgivings, for the wise and gracious care which thou hast continually exercised over us. When we retire to rest, thou coverest us with the shades of the evening; and when we arise, thou visitest us with the day-spring from on high: under the protection of thy providence we sleep in peace; when we awake thou art still with us; and thy blessing is ever upon us.

O LORD our God, who can number all thy mercies? Thy bounty seasonably supplies our returning wants, and gives us all things richly to enjoy. Fill our hearts, we beseech thee, with unfeigned thankfulness; and teach us to walk before thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

WE beseech thee, the Fountain of knowledge, to open the eyes of our minds, and enlighten us with true wisdom.

wisdom. May we have pure and worthy apprehensions of thy nature and providence; and a right understanding of that religion which is acceptable unto thee, and recommended to us in the gospel of thy Son. May we evermore discern, approve and practise the things which are excellent. May our hearts be endued with every pious and virtuous disposition; and under the influence of the great truths of religion, may we correct the vices of our minds, and amend the disorders of our lives; that by purity and righteousness, we may approve ourselves to thee, the Judge of all the earth.

WE desire at all times to maintain a devout sense, and holy admiration of thine excellent nature; to reverence thine authority; to look up unto thee with satisfaction and joy as the Giver of all good; to love thee with all our hearts; to delight in thy service; to be thankful

TUESDAY MORNING. 117

ful for thine innumerable mercies ; to confide in thy providence ; and to yield an unreserved and grateful obedience to thy holy commandments.

As children of the God of love and mercy, and members of the society of mankind, we desire to put on righteousness, mercy, kindness, compassion, humility, meekness, long suffering ; forbearing one another, forgiving one another. By the constant exercise of justice and humanity, we would fulfil the gracious purposes of thy providence, and live in peace and charity with all men.

UNDER a deep sense of our obligations as thy rational offspring, and as disciples of Jesus Christ, we desire to maintain a constant government over ourselves ; to be sober, chaste, and temperate in all things ; and to direct

our views to a future state, in joyful expectation of thy mercy unto eternal life.

O EVER present, most holy and righteous God ! who searchest the hearts of men, and before all things regardest the pure and virtuous mind; may our hearts be upright in thy sight. In whatever station thou art pleased to appoint our lot; wherever we are, in public or in private, may it be our uniform and steady purpose to discharge our duty with fidelity. May we never remove our integrity from us; and in that solemn day, when thou, supreme over all, shalt judge the world in righteousness, may we appear with humble confidence and joy, and be admitted into thy glorious and everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord,

OUR

TUESDAY MORNING. 119

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come. Thy will be done on earth, as
it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil: for thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, for ever. Amen.

14 PRAYER

P R A Y E R

F O R

TUESDAY EVENING.

O GOD, the Giver of all good, who delightest in the happiness of thy creatures! In the exercise of every pure and devout affection, we would raise our minds unto thee, the Lord of life, the Father and Friend of all.

WE thank thee for our creation;
for the excellent form of our bodies;
for the breath of life; the light of
reason and conscience; the benevolent
and

TUESDAY EVENING. 121

and friendly affections; and all the noble and useful powers of our minds.

WE thank thee for our continual preservation; for the food we eat, the raiment with which we are cloathed, and the habitations wherein we dwell; for capacity to perform the duties of our stations; for health to enjoy the blessings of thy providence; for the regular return of fruitful seasons; for the administration of wise and equal laws; for the continuance of our liberties, both civil and religious; for every personal and family blessing; for every friendly and social enjoyment; and for all the agreeable and happy circumstances of our lives. These are the gifts of thy bounty; thy name be praised for ever,

WE bless thee, O ever gracious Father, for thine inestimable love manifested unto the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the pure and heavenly

venly doctrines which he hath taught, to lead mankind in the way of truth and salvation; for the holy and excellent rules of virtue and religion, which he hath laid down in his gospel; and for the amiable and perfect example which he hath left us, that we might follow his steps. We thank thee, that, in obedience to thine authority, and to fulfil all righteousness, he submitted unto death; that, being made perfect by suffering, he might become the Author of eternal salvation to all them that obey him. And finally, we bless thee, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that thou hast, by raising him from the dead, confirmed to us the joyful hope of an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in the heavens for us. Glory be to God in the highest; on earth peace; good-will to men.

WE acknowledge and lament before thee,

TUESDAY EVENING. 123

thee, our heavenly Father, the manifold errors and follies of our lives. We have not duly hearkened to the voice of thy word. We have been unmindful of thy goodness, and ungrateful to thee our continual Benefactor. We have not always done unto others, as we would that they should do unto us. We have departed from the ways of thy commandments, and exposed ourselves to thy righteous displeasure. Our only hope is in thy mercy, which endureth for ever. We bow ourselves before the throne of thy mercy, imploring thy pardon,

O God, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live; have mercy upon the work of thy hands: hear our supplications, we beseech thee; forgive and accept thy people; and enable us, with our whole hearts, to return to the obedience of
thy

thy commandments. May we from henceforth forsake every evil way; correct whatever is wrong in our temper and conduct; and delight in the practice of every thing good and virtuous; that we may obtain from thee, the God of all mercy, the forgiveness of our sins, and an inheritance among those who are sanctified.

WE humbly commit ourselves, O merciful Father, to the disposal of thy wisdom, which cannot err, and to the care of thy goodness, which is unchangeable and everlasting. Lead us whither thou pleasest; place us in what circumstances thou shalt judge proper; we would do thy whole will with fidelity and pleasure; we would bear thy whole will with submission and patience. Bestow upon us whatever shall be truly good for us: let all events contribute to the improvement and establishment of our virtue: and
conduct

TUESDAY EVENING. 125

conduct us by thine unerring hand,
through all the changes of this mortal
life, to the everlasting habitations of
the just,* which thou hast promised
to thy faithful servants, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER

P R A Y E R

F O R

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O LORD God Almighty, the Creator and Governor of all things! We praise thy glorious name, and will speak of thy marvellous works.

WE behold with admiration and joy the beauty, order, and magnificence of thy creation: we acknowledge thine eternal being and providence; and we pay homage unto thee, the Fountain of life, and the Author of all good.

All

WEDNESDAY MORNING. 127

All thy works praise thee, and we thy servants bless thee.

THOU didst say, Let there be light, and there was light. The heavens are the work of thy hands; the sun, moon, and stars, thou hast ordained to fulfil thy pleasure: these declare thine almighty power and universal goodness. All the hosts of heaven worship thee.

THE air which we breathe is thy wise provision: thou coverest the heavens with clouds; thou preparest the rain and the dew; thou causest thy winds to blow: snow and hail, storms and tempests, are under thy controul. Thou sendest forth thy commandment; all things are obedient to the voice of thy word.

OF old hast thou laid the foundations of the earth. Thou hast clothed it with grass; furnished it with herbs

herbs and fruits; adorned it with flowers; and enriched it with every thing necessary for the support and happiness of thy creatures. The earth is thine, O Lord; thou hast filled it with the riches of thy goodness.

THE constant succession of day and night, and the grateful returns of summer and winter, seed-time and harvest, are the gracious appointments of thy providence. The day is thine; the night also is thine: thou crownest the year with thy goodness.

THE birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, and the cattle upon a thousand hills, are thine: thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created; thou renewest the face of the earth: thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good.

THOU art the Creator and Father of
mankind;

WEDNESDAY MORNING. 129

mankind; thou hast made us in thine own image, to contemplate thy works and shew forth thy praise. We are thine offspring: we will praise and exalt thee for ever.

WE thank thee, the gracious Preserver and bountiful Benefactor of mankind, for all the blessings of thy providence. By thee all our wants are supplied; from thee all our enjoyments proceed; thou crownest our lives with thy goodness. By day thou givest us food convenient for us; and by night renewest our wearied powers with refreshing repose. To thy providence we owe the raiment with which we are cloathed, our comfortable habitation, and all the fruits of our industry and labour.

WE acknowledge our continual dependence upon thee for our being, and all our enjoyments; and we desire at

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all

all times to maintain a grateful sense of thine innumerable mercies, and to manifest our thankfulness by the obedience of our lives.

O God, the Father of light, and Fountain of wisdom ! May our minds be enlightened with useful knowledge ; and may the truths of religion sink deep into our hearts, and influence all our actions. From a steadfast faith in thy perfections, may we maintain a constant regard to thine administration ; submit with cheerfulness to thine appointments ; live in thy fear, and order our whole conversation as in thy sight. May the hope which we are encouraged to entertain of thy continual support and assistance, confirm us in all good purposes, and animate us in well-doing. Under the influence of our holy religion, may we purify our minds from all vicious affections, abstain from every appearance of evil, and

abound

WEDNESDAY MORNING. 131

abound in all the fruits of righteousness. Animated by the example of Christ, may we steadfastly persevere in the practice of virtue, and excel in every thing that is praise-worthy. May the expectation of a happy immortality sustain our virtue in the midst of the most powerful temptations, and establish our souls in peace and joy.

ENDUE us, gracious Father, with that meek, contented, and humble spirit which shall prepare us for all the events of life : assist us in the discharge of all social and relative duties : and prepare us, by the uniform and persevering practice of virtue, to dwell for ever in the blessed society of just men made perfect ; according to the promises of the gospel of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

OUR Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom

PRAYER

K 2

come.

come: Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING. 133

P R A Y E R

FOR

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, who art the Fountain of happiness, and whose beneficence extends to all thy creatures! We acknowledge with unfeigned gratitude and joyful confidence thy perfect and everlasting goodness; and we render unto thee our sincere thanks for thy manifold mercies.

THOU art the Former of our bodies,
and the Father of our spirits. Thy
K 3 hands

134 PRAYER FOR

hands have made us and fashioned us; thou hast breathed into us the breath of life, and, by thine inspiration, hast given us understanding.

WE thank thee for the powers of reason, memory and speech; for the treasures of knowledge which are opened before us; for the friendly and generous affections with which we are endued; for the social relations in which we are placed; for the pleasures and benefits which arise from the mutual exercise of generosity and friendship; for our moral and religious powers, and our opportunities of improving in virtue and piety; and for all the supports and satisfactions of innocence and integrity.

WE bless thee, the wise and gracious Governor of the world, for the revelation which thou hast made of thy will to mankind by thy Son Jesus Christ, whom

WEDNESDAY EVENING. 135

whom thou hast appointed to be the messenger of thy truth and grace, to save us from ignorance and vice, and to lead us to the love and practice of universal righteousness. We praise thee, that by him we are assured of the pardon of our sins upon our return to the path of our duty; that he hath taught us to expect the solemn day of final judgment; and that he hath confirmed to us the joyful hope of immortality. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is good, and his mercies endure for ever.

To thee, the Lord our God, belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have sinned against thee. With humble and penitent hearts we will confess our sins before thee our heavenly Father, who art faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

WE acknowledge, O merciful Father, that we have sinned against thee, in thought, word and deed. We have acted inconsistently with our christian character, and departed from the holy commandment delivered unto us. We have been unmindful of the perfect example set before us; and forgotten the sure and precious promises to which we are called. We have sinned; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedly. O God of our salvation, have mercy upon us.

WE beseech thee, who delightest in mercy, and art not willing that any should perish, to grant unto us the pardon of all our sins, and a joyful hope of thine approbation; and to assist us in forsaking all our evil ways, and returning to the path of thy commandments; that we may at all times enjoy the peaceful reflections of our
own

WEDNESDAY EVENING. 137

own minds, and may finally obtain everlasting life.

O God, our Protector and Friend, to the direction of thy wise and unerring providence we do entirely commit ourselves. Safe under thy protection, and happy in thy favour, we would cheerfully follow where thou plearest to conduct us. We desire only that portion of the good things of this life, which thou seest to be fit for us; and would decline no sufferings, which thou shalt appoint, for the trial and improvement of our virtue. Save us, we beseech thee, from the snares of prosperity and adversity. Suffer us not to forget thee in our abundance; nor to question thy goodness in our distress. In health and in sickness, in life and in death, may we lift up our souls unto thee, and make thy goodness alone our confidence and joy: and may we
so

138 PRAYER FOR

so pass through the changing scenes of the present world, that we may be prepared for the pure and unmixed happiness of the life to come.

*

MERCIFULLY accept of our evening tribute of prayer and praise, which we offer unto thee in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER

THURSDAY MORNING. 139

P R A Y E R

F O R

THURSDAY MORNING.

O THOU that hearest prayer, unto thee do we lift up our souls.

WE worship thee, the one living and true God; of whom, and through whom, and to whom are all things. Thou art glorious in power, wonderful in counsel, and excellent in all thy works. Thou art a God of truth, and without iniquity. Thou art good, and thou doest good continually.

WE

WE praise thee, with our whole hearts, for the innumerable mercies which thou hast bestowed upon us.

WE thank thee, for the continual protection of thy providence; for the share of health and ease which we have enjoyed; for the daily renewal of our active powers by sleep; for the plenty with which our wants have been continually supplied; for the success which hath attended us in our several employments; and for every event which hath contributed to the happiness of our lives.

WE bless thee, the Father of our spirits, for the social and friendly dispositions which thou hast implanted within us, and for all the endearments and pleasures of mutual affection. We adore thy kind providence, which hath placed us in the relations, and called us to partake of the comforts, of domestic and social life.

WE

THURSDAY MORNING. 141

WE render thanks unto thee, who art the author of peace, and lover of concord, for the harmony and friendship which subsist among us; and for the opportunities which our respective stations afford us, of promoting our common felicity. And, finally, we bless thee, for the advantages, which in our social relations we enjoy, for establishing benevolent and virtuous affections in our hearts, and for cultivating the principles, and experiencing the pleasures, of religion.

THOU hast been continually with us; and hast rejoiced over us to do us good. Having daily united to partake of the blessings of thy providence, we do, at this time, with one heart and voice, unite to give thanks unto thee for all thy mercies.

ENCOURAGED by our past experience of thy goodness, we humbly
commit

commit ourselves, and all our concerns, to the direction of thy providence. If thou shalt see fit to preserve us from sickness and pain, and to continue unto us the peaceful enjoyment of the blessings of life, we desire to partake of the gifts of thy bounty, with innocent cheerfulness of heart, with unfeigned joy in each other's prosperity, and with sincere thankfulness to thee, the Giver of all good. Or if, by thine infinite wisdom, we be called to suffer affliction, in mind, body, or outward estate, we would patiently submit to thine appointments, and, as far as we are able, lighten each other's burdens, by mutual offices of kindness and compassion.

IN every relation and condition of life, may we behave as becomes children of God, disciples of Christ, and members of the general society of mankind. May we love one another, with
pure

THURSDAY MORNING. 149

pure hearts fervently; that we may be, at all times, ready to every good work. May we cheerfully bear our several parts in the concerns of life; and heartily unite our endeavours to promote each other's happiness. May pride and envy, discontent and fretfulness, suspicion and jealousy, anger and strife, and all unsocial and unfriendly passions, be put away far from us. May we bear with each other's infirmities; and reprove each other in the spirit of meekness. May all amiable and generous affections rule in our hearts; and may a desire of serving and pleasing each other appear in all our actions. May innocence and virtue adorn our characters; and may friendship and love make their abode in our habitation; that, in this life, we may experience, how good and how pleasant it is, for brethren to dwell together in unity; and that we may be prepared to dwell for
ever

144 PRAYER FOR

ever in the regions of endless peace and joy, through thine infinite mercy, declared unto us by Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

THURSDAY EVENING. 145

P R A Y E R

FOR

THURSDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of all the families of the earth, who art supreme in goodness, and whose tender mercies are over all thy works! We present ourselves before thee, to express our grateful sense of thy goodness, and unfeignedly to bless thy holy name.

We praise thee, that thou hast called us into life to bear thine image, and to partake of the blessings of thy
L family.

family. We acknowledge and adore thy loving kindness and tender mercy, which have followed us all the days of our lives. In the time of our prosperity, thou hast rejoiced over us to do us good: in the day of adversity, thou hast heard our prayer, and delivered our souls from affliction. Thou hast given us bread to eat, and raiment to put on: thou hast granted unto us the comforts and pleasures of domestic life; and hast filled our house with good things. Because thou hast been our helper and our friend, therefore will we praise thee. We thank thee, more especially, for thine unspeakable love in the gift of thy Son Jesus Christ, and for all the spiritual blessings which we have received through him. We bless thee, that thou didst send him into the world, to lead us to the knowledge and worship of thee, the only true God; to establish in our hearts the love of righteousness; and to train

us

THURSDAY EVENING. 147

us up for everlasting life. We acknowledge these and all thy mercies with unfeigned thankfulness, and will praise thy name for ever and ever.

UNTO thee belong goodness and mercy ; but unto us shame and confusion of face ; for we have sinned against thee. We have disregarded thine authority, and broken thy laws. We have not duly improved the talents which thou hast committed unto us. We have been ungrateful to thee, our most bountiful Benefactor, and best Friend. We have departed from the path of thy commandments, and exposed ourselves to thy righteous displeasure. Our only hope is in thy mercy.

WE humbly beseech thee, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, to grant unto us the

L 2

pardon

pardon of all our sins. And, that we may be proper objects of thy forgiving mercy, we desire to amend whatever hath been amiss in our past lives, and from our hearts to forgive all those who have injured or offended us. We expect mercy from thee, our heavenly Father, only upon condition that we shew mercy to our brethren.

CREATE in us clean hearts, O God; and renew right spirits within us. Teach us to abstain from all appearance of evil, and to maintain a conscience void of offence, both towards thee and towards all men. Lead us in the way in which we should go; deliver us from every evil word and work; and bring us, at length, to thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

WE rejoice that thou, the Lord God omnipotent, reignest over all; and
with

THURSDAY EVENING. 149

with the most perfect satisfaction, we resign ourselves and all our concerns to thy direction, through this night, and the remainder of our lives.

WE look up unto thee, the Father and Friend of all thy creatures, with a joyful confidence in thine impartial providence ; and with a humble hope, that thou wilt grant unto us a competent share of that provision, which thou hast made for thine offspring. We desire at all times to perform our duty with diligence and alacrity ; and without lamenting what is past, or fearing what is to come, to enjoy the present hour with a cheerful and thankful heart.

WE would submit with patience to all the disappointments and afflictions of life ; from a steadfast persuasion that thou wilt cause all things to work together for good.

Yea, though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil. We trust that thou, who hast been our Father and Friend through life, wilt not forsake us in the time of our greatest need. In health and in sickness, in life and in death, into thy hands, O God of mercy, we commend our spirits. Conduct us whithersoever thou wilt; bestow upon us whatsoever thou pleasest; we will at all times acquiesce in thine appointments, and confide in thy goodness; and while we have any being we will say, Thy will be done.

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WE beseech thee, mercifully to receive our humble prayers, which we offer up in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PRAYER

FRIDAY MORNING. 151

P R A Y E R

F O R

FRIDAY MORNING.

O GOD, who art worthy to be praised with all pure and holy praise! We will praise thee for thy mighty acts; we will praise thee, according to thine excellent greatness.

THOU, O God, who livest for ever, didst create all things. Thou art great above all thy works, and marvellous is thy power. Who can withstand the might of thine arm? for the whole world before thee, is as the small dust

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of

of the balance, and as a drop of the morning dew that falleth upon the earth.

THINE uncorruptible spirit filleth the world. Thou declarest the things that are past and to come: thou see'st from everlasting to everlasting; and there is nothing wonderful before thee.

THY wisdom, O Lord, is great; and all thy works are done in judgment. Thou hast made all things for their uses, and ordained them in measure, and number, and weight. All wisdom cometh from thee, and is with thee for ever. There is One wise and greatly to be feared, the Lord sitting upon his throne.

O LORD, thou art just, and all thy ways are mercy and truth; thou judgest truly and justly for ever. Thou hast made

FRIDAY MORNING. 153

made the small and great, and carest for all alike; and, being Lord of all, thou art gracious unto all.

THOU hast created all things, that they might enjoy their being; and thy mercy is manifest to every creature. Thou lookest upon the earth, and fillest it with thy blessings. Thou art gracious, and full of compassion; thou forgivest sins, and savest in the time of affliction. Thou wilt not despise the supplication of the fatherless, nor of the widow, when she poureth out her complaint. The soul in anguish, the troubled spirit, crieth unto thee. Thou lovest all things that thou hast made; and thy mercy endureth for ever.

WE offer unto thee our joyful thanksgivings, that thou hast created man upon the earth, endued him with strength and wisdom, and taught him
to

to discern between good and evil. We praise thee, from whom all good things proceed, for the blessings of health and peace; for the protection of thy providence by day and by night; for the numberless gifts of thy bounty; for the present rewards of virtue, and for the blessed hope of immortality. Thou hast created man to be immortal, and made him to be an image of thine own eternity. Glory and praise be unto thee for ever.

WE will love thee, O Lord our God, and will offer thee the continual sacrifice of religious veneration, gratitude, and obedience: we will fear thy name, and walk uprightly before thee, all the days of our lives.

IN every relation in which thou hast placed us, may we do that which is good in thy sight. May we keep our tongues from falsehood and slander,
and

FRIDAY MORNING. 155

and speak every one truth to his neighbour. Let the law of truth be written upon our hearts, that iniquity may not be found in our lips.

SAVE us, we beseech thee, from all those unjust designs, and dishonest actions, which are the fruits of covetousness, pride and ambition. O Lord, Father and God of our lives, turn away from thy servants always a haughty mind.

MAY we be ever ready to listen to the supplications of the afflicted; to mourn with them that mourn; and, according to our ability, to give to him that needeth. May we rejoice with our friends in their prosperity, and never forsake them in the time of their adversity. May we be heartily disposed to forgive our enemies the wrongs which they have done us; that
our

our sins may be forgiven when we pray unto thee.

THROUGH all the changes of this world, may we keep innocency, and take heed to the thing that is right; that, whether we be rich or poor, having a good heart towards thee, we may at all times rejoice with a cheerful countenance; and that, in the world to come, we may be numbered among the children of God, and our lot may be among the saints.

O God of mercy, let our prayers be acceptable unto thee, according to thy promises declared unto us by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PRAYER

FRIDAY EVENING. 157

P R A Y E R

F O R

FRIDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father
and the Lord of all! We thy
servants and children unite to present
unto thee the humble tribute of our
praises and thanksgivings.

Thy perfections are worthy of our
highest veneration, esteem and love ;
and thy providence is the foundation
of all our enjoyments, and all our
hopes.

To

To thee we owe our existence, and all the faculties and powers by which our nature is distinguished. We acknowledge thy goodness in our creation; and praise thee for having placed us in the order of rational beings, and made us capable of knowing and imitating thy perfections, and of enjoying thy favour.

WE ascribe to thy wise and merciful providence, every event, which hath contributed to the improvement of our intellectual and moral powers. All the instructions we have from time to time received concerning our duty, and all the opportunities which our situation hath afforded us, for acquiring virtuous and religious principles and habits, we owe to thee, the great Governor of the world, the Fountain of all wisdom and perfection.

WE acknowledge ourselves in a peculiar

culiar manner indebted to thy goodness, for having raised up Jesus Christ, to instruct mankind in the great principles of religion and morality; to set before them a blameless and perfect example; to declare unto them the promises of thy gracious acceptance of all those who sincerely repent of and forsake their evil ways; and to live and die that he might save men from their sins, and conduct them to everlasting happiness. We thank thee that the blessings of christianity have been transmitted to the present age, and have reached this part of the world. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that unto us the word of this salvation hath been sent.

O God, the Father of mercy; encouraged by the unchangeable goodness of thy nature, and the promises of thy mercy declared unto us by Jesus Christ, we bow before thine eternal throne,

throne, humbly beseeching thee to pardon whatever thou hast seen amiss in us from the beginning of our lives to this day. All our offences have been committed under thine all-seeing eye: they are known unto thee with all their circumstances and aggravations. We confess them with unfeigned sorrow: and we supplicate the forgiveness of them, only upon the terms required from us in the gospel of thy Son. We would from our hearts forgive all those who have in any instance or degree offended or injured us: if we ourselves have injured any, we desire to make them all the reparation in our power: and we sincerely resolve, as far as we are able, to correct every thing which hath been wrong in our temper and behaviour, and to live in the conscientious practice of our whole duty. O merciful Father, forgive our past transgressions, and

and assist us to execute every virtuous purpose of our hearts.

OUR outward condition in this world it is our happiness, as well as duty, to refer entirely to thy direction. We desire the continuance and increase of the comforts and blessings of life, only so far as shall appear to thine unerring wisdom, right and good. Concerning the calamities and afflictions to which we are liable, we pray, according to the example of Christ; Father, if it be possible, and consistent with the wise and gracious designs of thy providence, remove the bitter cup from us: nevertheless, not as we will, but as thou wilt. In imitation of our Divine Master, and of all good men, who have bravely struggled with adversity; and from a steadfast persuasion that we are under the government of a Being, who always pursues the happiness of his creatures by the wisest and best

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means;

means; we desire to submit with patience and fortitude to all the afflictions which thou shalt call us to endure.

WE commit ourselves, heavenly Father, to thine almighty protection and blessing. Let thy good providence defend us through this night, and through all the future days and nights of our lives. And let it please thee so to proportion our trials to our condition and powers, that our highest good may be most effectually secured; and so to direct and dispose the events of this mortal life, that we may at length obtain everlasting happiness in thy heavenly kingdom, through thine infinite mercy manifested by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PRAYER

SATURDAY MORNING. 163

P R A Y E R

F O R

SATURDAY MORNING.

O EVER blessed and most glorious Lord our God, the object of supreme veneration, on whom all the families of the earth continually depend! We would present ourselves before thee with reverence and humility, and would offer up our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving with joy and gratitude.

WE acknowledge and adore thee,

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the

the one, true, and living God, who alone art independent and eternal.

AT thine almighty word the universe arose into being, and by thy gracious providence it is continually supported. Thou disposest all things in perfect wisdom; and maintainest the beauty and order of thy works. All thy creatures are the ministers of thy good pleasure; and thou assignest them their proper station and duty.

THOU art the life of the creation, the fountain of happiness, and the confidence and joy of thy rational offspring. All the works of thy hands, and all the ordinances of thy providence, bear testimony to thine unbounded power, unerring wisdom, and unchangeable goodness. Thy perfections and government fill our hearts with love and gratitude; and our lips shall shew forth thy praise.

WE

SATURDAY MORNING. 165

WE offer unto thee, the gracious Preserver of men, our sincere thanksgivings, for the daily care of thy providence; for the refreshment of quiet repose; for the continued use of our reason and understanding; for that share of health and ease which we enjoy; for the supports and conveniences of food, raiment and habitation; for the comforts and advantages of friendship and society; and for all the good things with which thou hast graciously surrounded us.

FOR every instance of thine undeserved goodness, accept, merciful Father, of our united thanksgivings, and of every expression of gratitude we are capable of offering thee.

O GOD, the fountain of all excellence, teach us to imitate thy moral perfections, which we admire and venerate; that, according to our nature,

we may be perfect, as thou, our Father in heaven, art perfect. May we so diligently cultivate the powers with which thou hast endued us, and so faithfully improve the talents thou hast entrusted to our care, that we may be able hereafter to render a good account of ourselves unto thee, the Judge of all.

MAY the precepts of the holy religion of Jesus Christ, by which we profess to be guided, and his example, which we profess to follow, engage us to live in all respects as becometh the gospel. In a more especial manner, may we excel in those virtues, which christianity is peculiarly adapted to promote, and which were most eminently displayed in the character of its great Author. Like him, may we love the whole race of mankind with an unconfined and undissembled affection, and rejoice in all opportunities
of

SATURDAY MORNING. 167

of lessening the miseries, or increasing the happiness of our fellow-creatures : and may we be always ready to stoop to the lowest offices of humanity, and to forgive the greatest and most unprovoked injuries. May the whole course of our lives be adorned by humility and charity ; and may all pride, covetousness, censoriousness and envy, and every evil affection, be subdued by the power of religion.

LEAD us, merciful Father, by all the dispensations of thy providence, to the true perfection of our nature ; and train us up in the way of well-doing, for complete and everlasting felicity, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our

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daily

daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil: for thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER

SATURDAY EVENING. 169

P R A Y E R

F O R

SATURDAY EVENING.

O LORD God Almighty! We praise thee; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting. To thee all angels cry aloud; the heavens, and all the powers therein. With angels, and all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify thy glorious name. Holy, holy Lord God of hosts! heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory. Day by day we magnify thee; and we will worship thy

thy name for ever. Glory be to thee,
O Lord, most high.

WE give thee most humble and hearty thanks, Father of all mercies, for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life. We offer unto thy divine majesty the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving, magnifying thy glorious name for thy continual providence over us. Above all, we bless thee for thine inestimable love, in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we may shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by

SATURDAY EVENING. 171

by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men! We acknowledge and lament our manifold sins and wickedness which we have from time to time committed, by thought, word and deed, against thy divine majesty. We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done: and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

WE beseech thee, whose nature and property is ever to have mercy
and

and forgive, that thou wouldest graciously pardon all our offences. Spare thou them, O God, who confess their faults; restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto us by Jesus Christ. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us, and grant us thy salvation.

O GOD, who desirest not the death of a sinner, have compassion upon our infirmities, and cleanse us from all sin. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that we, truly lamenting and forsaking our sins, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness: and grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name.

DELIVER us, merciful Father, from all blindness of mind, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word and command-

SATURDAY EVENING. 173

commandment; from all covetous desires, and inordinate love of riches; from pride, vain-glory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice, and all uncharitableness. O God, make clean our hearts within us; and take not thy holy spirit from us.

ALMIGHTY God, the Fountain of all wisdom; grant unto us thy servants a right judgment in all things: give us a perpetual fear and love of thy name; increase in us true religion; and establish our hearts in all goodness. Direct and preserve us in the way of thy truth, and in obedience to thy commandments; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal.

O MERCIFUL God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gates of everlasting

everlasting life, grant that we thy servants, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that daily following the steps of his most holy life, we may finally be received into thine eternal and glorious kingdom.

WE beseech thee, O Almighty and Everlasting God, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things in heaven and earth, to keep us continually under thy gracious protection; and more especially, to defend us, by thy great mercy, from all the perils and dangers of this night. Put away from us all hurtful things, and give us those things which shall be profitable for us. Mercifully look upon our infirmities, and, for the glory of thy name, turn from us all those evils, which we have most righteously deserved; and grant that, in all our troubles, we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy, and
evermore

SATURDAY EVENING. 175

evermore serve thee in holiness and
pureness of living.

IN the time of tribulation, in the
hour of death, and in the day of judg-
ment, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

*

O GOD, our heavenly Father, who
knowest our necessities before we ask,
and our ignorance in asking; and who
art always more ready to hear, than we
are to pray; mercifully receive our
humble supplications; and fulfil the
desires and petitions of thy servants, as
shall be most expedient for us; grant-
ing us in this world the protection and
blessing of thy providence, and in the
world to come life everlasting, through
Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.
Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING

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...of ...
...the ...
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O God, our heavenly Father, who
knowest our necessities better than we
and our ignorance in asking; and who
art always more ready to hear than we
to pray; mercifully receive our
humble supplications, and relieve our
distresses and petitions of thy servants;
that we may ever be in thy love and
ing us in this world the protection
blessing of thy goodness; and that
world to come the everlasting reward
Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.
Amen.

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FORMS OF

INTERCESSION,

AND

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS.

N

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ALACHSA

OCCESSIONAL PRAYERS

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F O R M S

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INTERCESSION.

I.

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind! We humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men, that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them; thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for the good estate of the christian church; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good spirit, that all,

who profess and call themselves christians, may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

MERCIFULLY regard these kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, and all the colonies and provinces thereunto belonging. Let truth and justice, brotherly kindness and charity, with all other virtues, so flourish among us, that they may be the stability of our times, and that thou mayest still continue thy favour to us and our posterity for ever.

Most heartily we beseech thee, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, with thy favour to behold our gracious Sovereign King George; and so to replenish him with the grace of thy holy spirit, that he may always incline to thy will, and walk in the

way

INTERCESSION. 181

way, and that, finally, after this life, he may attain everlasting joy and felicity.

WE humbly beseech thee to bless our gracious Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Endue them with thy holy spirit; enrich them with thy heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom.

[*MAY it please thee to direct and prosper the consultations of the High Court of Parliament, to the advancement of thy glory, the good of thy church, and the safety, honour and welfare of our Sovereign and his kingdoms; that all things may be so ordered and settled, by their endeavours, upon the best and surest foundations,

* To be used only when the Parliament is sitting.

that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations.]

MAY it please thee, to bless the magistrates of these lands, giving them grace to execute justice and maintain truth; to illuminate all christian ministers with the true knowledge and understanding of thy word; and to grant that all thy people may hear it with meekness, receive it with pure affection, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

FINALLY, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions.

O GOD,

INTERCESSION. 183

O God, who hast permitted us at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; graciously receive our humble prayers, which we offer unto thee, in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour; who hath taught us when we pray to say,

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

II.

O GOD, the Creator of heaven and earth, the common Father of all mankind! We thy servants beseech thee to hear our intercessions for all our brethren and fellow-creatures. Let all mankind be united in the pure and holy worship of thee, the true God, as the disciples of Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent,

SEND down thy heavenly blessing upon every part of the christian world. Put an end to all persecution and usurpation over the judgments and consciences of mankind; lead all professing christians to the right understanding and practice of our holy religion; unite their hearts in charity and godly love; and let their light so shine before

INTERCESSION. 185

before men, that others seeing their good works, may glorify thee, our Father in heaven.

PRESERVE the peace, liberty, and happiness of our native country: defend us from the designs of our enemies, and from all great and wasting calamities; and confirm, and continue to us, that wise and equal government, under which, in thy great mercy, thou hast placed us.

LET thy servant, our Sovereign King George, be under the continual guidance of thy wisdom, and the care and protection of thy providence.

BLESS and preserve our gracious Queen Charlotte, and all the Royal Family.

[ENDUE our senators with wisdom and virtue, and a true love to their country;

country; and over-rule all their deliberations, for the public good.]

ENABLE all our judges and magistrates to execute justice, and maintain peace; that they may be a terror to evil doers, and a protection to those who do well.

ENLIGHTEN the ministers of the christian religion with true knowledge and understanding of thy word: may they be faithful in the discharge of their important duty; that by the power of truth, and the influence of a good example, they may turn many to righteousness.

BLESS all public and private institutions for the instruction and education of youth: may they promote useful knowledge, and the true principles of religion and virtue.

BLESS

INTERCESSION. 187

BLESS all thy people: dispose them truly to love and fear thee, and to discharge the duties of their several stations with fidelity. Bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived: strengthen such as do stand: raise up those who fall: comfort those who mourn: preserve those who are travelling by land or water: support the aged: provide for the fatherless and widows, and all who are desolate and oppressed; shew thy mercy to such as are suffering for righteousness sake; assist all who are in necessity or trouble; and have compassion upon all who are afflicted.

BLESS our friends: reward our benefactors: forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

MAY it please thee to have mercy upon all men,

O God,

O GOD, the Father of mercies, the God of all consolation; graciously hear our prayers, which we address unto thee in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

III.

O GOD, the Father of all mankind! We offer up unto thee our prayers and intercessions for all our brethren and fellow-creatures. Mercifully regard the work of thine hands. Let thy name be known, and thy pure worship prevail, throughout the world. May all people, nations, and languages, acknowledge thee, the true God. Put an end to idolatry, superstition, false religion, and persecution for conscience sake. Let wisdom and goodness, liberty and peace, charity and

and happiness every where abound;
and thy kingdom of truth, and righteousness spread and flourish, until it cover the face of the whole earth.

CONTINUE thy protection and favour to our native country, and all the dominions thereunto belonging.

SEND down thy blessing upon thy servant, our Sovereign King George: preserve his life and health. May he be eminent for wisdom, and the virtues becoming his exalted station; may he be the faithful guardian of public order, liberty and happiness; may his reign be long and prosperous; and may he finally be rewarded with immortal glory and felicity.

BLESS our gracious Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. May thy watchful providence evermore defend them from all evil,
and

and prosper them with all good : guide them by thy counsel in this world ; and hereafter receive them into thine everlasting kingdom.

BLESS the King's counsellors, the nobility, judges, magistrates, and the whole body of the people of these lands. May they all discharge the duties of their stations with fidelity and good conscience, and contribute their several parts towards the general order and happiness.

LET thy blessing descend upon christian ministers of every denomination. May they be so replenished with the truth of thy doctrine, and so exemplary in unaffected piety and goodness of life, that they may turn many to righteousness, and promote the knowledge and practice of true religion in the world.

MAY

INTERCESSION. 191

MAY it please thee mercifully to regard all our brethren in affliction. Let thy wisdom be their guide, thy power their support, and thy goodness their confidence: and by a patient submission to thy will, and a cheerful obedience to thy commands, may they be prepared for unmixed happiness in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord; in whose words we conclude our prayers for ourselves and all mankind;

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

IV.

O GOD, who hast taught us to offer up prayers and intercessions for all men! We beseech thee to extend thy mercy and favour to all mankind. May all the families and kingdoms of the earth be brought to the knowledge and pure worship of thee, the only true God. Enlarge the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, that kingdom of truth and righteousness which shall never be destroyed. May all who profess the faith of Christ, be shining examples of virtue; may the spirit of persecution for ever cease; and may peace and charity every where abound.

Look down with favour upon the kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland,
and

INTERCESSION. 193

and all our colonies and provinces. May the progress of immorality and prophaneness be restrained; may public virtue prevail, and on that lasting foundation may the public happiness be established; and may our liberties, civil and religious, be continued, and conveyed to the latest posterity.

SEND down thy blessing upon thy servant, our Sovereign King George. In wisdom and righteousness, in justice and clemency may he rule the people; may the years of his government be many and prosperous; may we, at all times, have reason to rejoice in him, as the minister of thy providence unto us for good; and may he at length be rewarded in thy heavenly and everlasting kingdom.

VISIT with thy favour our gracious Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. May they

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cultivate

cultivate all those virtues, which will render them ornaments to their stations, and blessings to the world.

BLESS the King's counsellors, the nobility, judges, and the whole body of the magistracy of this land. May they discharge the duties of their stations with understanding and wisdom, with integrity and honour; and under them may we, and all thy people, lead peaceable and quiet lives, in all godliness and honesty.

ENDUE the ministers of religion, of every denomination, and in every part of the christian world, with the spirit and temper of Christ Jesus. May they diligently pursue the good work of instructing the ignorant, and reforming the vicious; and by the excellency of their doctrines, and the holiness of their lives, may they save themselves and those who hear them.

WE

INTERCESSION. 195

WE humbly recommend to thy fatherly goodness all such as are in affliction and distress. Be thou, in thy great mercy, a Father to the fatherless, and the Defender of the widow: provide for the poor; give health to the sick, and ease to such as are in pain: deliver those who are oppressed, and comfort those who mourn.

O God, our heavenly Father, we humbly beseech thee graciously to accept the praises, and hear the prayers, which we have at this time offered up to thy divine majesty; according to thy promises declared unto us by Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against

us. And lead us not into temptation ; but deliver us from evil : for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

V.

O GOD, the Father of all mankind ! We rejoice in thy universal providence, and recommend all our fellow-creatures to thy direction and blessing. Fill the minds of all thy reasonable creatures with the knowledge of thy truth : cause thy light to shine upon those who sit in darkness, that it may dispel the shades of error and prejudice ; and lead all men into the way of truth and happiness. Grant unto all those who profess the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, just conceptions of the nature and tendency of
of

INTERCESSION. 197

of our holy religion; let its sacred principles dwell in their hearts, that they may be filled with love to thee and to each other; and let its holy precepts direct their conduct, that they may approve themselves faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, and be shining examples of all virtue.

WE commit to thy direction all the important interests of our native country. Mercifully preserve us from all public calamities, and continue unto us the uninterrupted enjoyment of the blessings of civil society. Teach all orders of men among us, by a diligent and faithful discharge of the duties of their several stations, to contribute their part to the public welfare.

WE recommend to the care of thy providence, thy servant, our Sovereign King George; beseeching thee to assist him in the important duties of govern-
ment;

ment; to preserve him from the designs of his enemies; to give him the hearts of his subjects; to prosper all his designs for the public good; and after a life of extensive usefulness in this world, to receive him to thy heavenly and everlasting kingdom.

BLESS our gracious Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. By the influence of a good example, and a wise and faithful discharge of the duties of their stations, may they be ornaments and blessings to their country.

MAY our nobility, and all whom thy providence hath distinguished by wealth and power, employ their example and influence in the support of public order and virtue, and be faithful stewards of the manifold gifts of thy bounty.

INTERCESSION. 199

MAY our judges and magistrates dispense justice with impartiality and wisdom; that all vice and prophane-ness may be discountenanced and restrained, and that innocence may meet with sure protection and support.

PROSPER the faithful endeavours of the ministers of religion to extend the knowledge of thy truth, and to promote the love and practice of thy holy commandments; and enable them, both by their doctrine and example, to direct thy servants in the way of righteousness to their highest happiness.

BLESS those who are rich in this world with a disposition to do good: teach the poor to be sober, honest, diligent, and contented in their stations; and lead us all to a wise and thankful improvement of the blessings thou art pleased to bestow upon us.

O God, the Father of mercies, we humbly offer to thy gracious acceptance these our prayers, in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord,

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

VI.

O GOD, the merciful Parent of the universe ! As members of the general society of mankind, and more especially as members of the church of Christ, which is founded in love and charity, we would express before thee our sincere good-will towards our fellow-creatures ; our joy in every degree of happiness which they possess ; and our desire that their calamities may be removed, and their enjoyments increased and multiplied.

MAY such as are strangers to true religion, be freed from idolatry and superstition, and led to the knowledge of thy truth, as it is taught in the gospel of Christ.

MAY

MAY all who bear the christian name, be purified from all unchristian principles and practices; and approve themselves worthy of the honourable character which they sustain. More especially, may they exercise that spirit of candour and charity towards each other, which is the bond of christian perfection.

CONTINUE and confirm to the inhabitants of these kingdoms, the excellent form of government established amongst us; and preserve unto us the uninterrupted and perfect enjoyment of our liberties, civil and religious. Let thy blessing rest upon thy servant, our Sovereign King George. Defend him from all the attempts of his enemies; and prosper all his endeavours to preserve order, peace and happiness among his people.

ASSIST all who are entrusted with
the

the administration of public affairs, whether as law-givers or magistrates, in discharging the duties of their several stations; and grant them wisdom and integrity equal to the importance of their trust. From the wise and faithful execution of our laws, may the guilty ever meet with necessary punishment, and the injured and oppressed find sure redress.

MAY those to whom the great concerns of religion are more peculiarly committed, be so well instructed in all useful truths, so exemplary in the practice of all christian virtues, and so faithful in discharging the duties of their office, that they may approve themselves ministers of God, servants of Christ, and friends of mankind.

GIVE success to such institutions as are designed and adapted to promote
the

the great ends of virtuous and liberal education, by cultivating the understandings, and forming the manners of youth; and teach those who enjoy the benefit of such institutions, to apply with assiduity to the pursuit of useful knowledge, and to establish early habits of industry, sobriety, benevolence and religion, that they may become qualified to support a respectable and useful character in future life.

O God of all consolation, we would sympathize with the unhappy and afflicted, and express before thee, our earnest wishes for their relief. Let it please thee, to supply the wants of the poor; to prosper the labours of the honest and industrious; to visit with thy light and comfort those who are labouring under bodily pain or sickness; to hear the cries, and behold the tears of such as are groaning under the yoke of oppression, or suffering persecution

cution in the cause of virtue and religion; and to be the Protector of the widow, and the Father of the fatherless.

ACCEPT, O gracious Father, the pious sentiments of our hearts, and the devout homage of our lips, which we offer unto thee, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

VII.

O GOD, the Father and Friend of all! Graciously receive our united supplications, in behalf of our relations and friends, our native country, and the whole race of mankind.

LET it please thee, to comfort and relieve such as are labouring under any kind of affliction or distress; to protect such as are travelling by sea or land; to support those who are advanced in life under their increasing infirmities; to guide and preserve the young, amidst the manifold temptations of the world; and to pour down the abundance of thy mercy upon all our brethren, according to their several necessities.

WE beseech thee, the King of nations,
to

INTERCESSION. 207

to look down with favour upon these kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland. May peace be within our walls, and prosperity within our cities; and may righteousness, which exalteth a nation, flourish in the midst of us.

LET it please thee to protect and bless thy servant, our Sovereign King George, and all the Royal Family. Upon our King, upon his house, and upon his throne, may there be peace for ever from the Lord.

MAY all our inferior rulers and magistrates, execute true judgment in the land. May the ministers of religion teach thy people the true knowledge of thy will, and walk before them with uprightness of heart and life. By their doctrine may they guide thy people in the way of righteousness; and in all things may they shew themselves patterns of good works; that they

they may adorn their holy profession, and be useful to the world.

MAY all who call themselves followers of Christ, depart from iniquity, and order their conversation as becometh the gospel.

FINALLY, we pray unto thee, in behalf of all our brethren and fellow-creatures, beseeching thee to grant, that the blessings of wise and equal government may be every where enjoyed; and that useful knowledge, and pure religion, may enlighten and bless the world. In every place, may prayer be offered unto thee, and pure worship; and let thine ear be attentive to the supplications of every sincere and humble worshipper of thee, upon the face of the whole earth. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

OUR

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

VIII.

WE present unto thee, the Father of men, our humble supplications in behalf of our friends, beseeching thee to keep them under the protection of thy providence; to support them in all their afflictions; to establish them in all goodness; and to train them up for everlasting life.

P

WE

WE beseech thee to continue thy favour to our native country, and all the dominions thereunto belonging. Bless thy servant, our Sovereign King George, and all the Royal Family; all our inferior rulers and magistrates; and all the people of these lands. By a diligent and cheerful discharge of the duties of their several stations, may all orders of men among us contribute their part towards the public welfare. May public virtue prevail; and on this sure foundation may the public happiness be established.

MAY the ministers of religion, uncorrupted by the desire of gain, and unseduced by the love of applause, pursue the great ends of their office with simplicity of intention and manly resolution; opposing error and reproving vice in the spirit of meekness; shewing themselves friends, not to a sect or party, but to mankind.

MAY

INTERCESSION. 211

MAY the important purposes of religious institutions be answered in all societies of christians, by whatever systems of faith, or modes of worship, they are distinguished. May they increase in zeal, not for the several distinctions which separate them, but for the great cause in which they should all be united, the cause of religion and virtue.

MAY the gospel of Jesus Christ be more generally received, more perfectly understood, and more constantly regarded; and may all those who call themselves christians depart from iniquity.

MAY superstition, idolatry, and false religion be banished from the earth: may the true knowledge and fear of thee be in every heart; and may all mankind unite to pay thee a pure, rational, and acceptable worship. Let

the whole earth be one pure and holy temple consecrated unto the Lord.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

OCCASIONAL
P R A Y E R S
AND
THANKSGIVINGS.*

P R A Y E R
FOR
A SICK PERSON.

O GOD, who hast taught us, at
all times, and in every condition,
to make our requests known unto thee!

* To be added to the preceding Forms of Devotion,
as circumstances may require.

We offer up our humble supplications, in behalf of thy servant, who is labouring under pain and sickness. Look down upon *him* [*her* *] with mercy; and let the consideration of thy fatherly goodness strengthen and comfort *his* soul, in the time of affliction. We pray, with submission to thy wise providence, that thou wouldest be pleased to remove *his* disorder, and restore *him* to health. Graciously prolong *his* days upon earth; and grant, that *his* affliction may produce in *him* the fruits of righteousness, to the honour of thy name. By the sadness of *his* countenance may *his* heart be made better; and may *he* long live, to manifest *his* thankfulness to thee, *his* great Preserver, and to do good in *his* generation.

* THE words *his*, *him*, *he*, &c. printed in Italics, may be changed into *her*, *she*, &c. as the occasion shall direct.

[BUT,

A SICK PERSON. 215

[BUT, if this affliction should be unto death, may thy servant be prepared to give *himself* up into thy hands, with christian patience and fortitude, in joyful expectation of thy mercy unto eternal life. May the testimony of a good conscience, and the hope of thy favour, support *him* in that awful moment: may *he* leave the world in peace; and, after death, may *he* be received into thy heavenly kingdom, and made a partaker of that happiness, which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, and which it hath not entered into the heart of man to conceive. Command thy blessing upon thy servant, O God, even life for evermore, through Jesus Christ our Lord.]

P R A Y E R

F O R

A S I C K C H I L D.

O GOD, the Fountain of all mercy ! We offer up our humble prayers unto thee, in behalf of the child, on whom thou hast seen fit to lay thine afflicting hand. We beseech thee, if it be thy will, to remove the disorder under which *he* [*she*] labours, and to restore *him* [*her*] to health and strength. Suffer not the wishes and hopes of *his* parents to be disappointed ; but, in thy great mercy, spare *him* to be the comfort and support of their advancing years, and to be useful in the world. But, whatever thou
hast

RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS. 217

hast determined concerning *him*, thy will, O God, be done. Into thy hands we commit ourselves, and all our enjoyments: we desire, at all times, patiently to submit to thine appointments; and we humbly pray that, by all the dispensations of thy providence, we may be trained up for that world, where there shall be no more sorrow, pain, or death.

THANKSGIVING

FOR

RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

WE render united thanksgivings unto thee, O God, who healest all our diseases, and redeemest our lives from destruction, for thy great mercy manifested

manifested to thy servant, whom thou hast raised from the bed of sickness, and restored to a capacity of performing the duties, and enjoying the comforts of life. To thy good providence we ascribe it, that this affliction hath not been unto death; and that the voice of health and rejoicing is again heard in our habitation. We will praise thee, O Lord, with our whole hearts; for thou hast dealt bountifully with us. May thy servant, whom thou hast delivered from death, manifest *his* [*her*] sense of thy great goodness unto *him*, by devoting the remainder of *his* days to thy service: and may this instance of thy mercy engage us all to love thee with our whole hearts, and to keep all thy commandments.

PRAYER

BEFORE A JOURNEY. 219

OPERA BY ME IR

BEFORE

A JOURNEY.

ALMIGHTY God, the Preserver
of men! We recommend thy
servant [*servants*] who *is* [*are*] enter-
ing upon a journey, to the care of thy
good providence; humbly beseeching
thee, to be with *him* in all places
whither *he* may go; to defend *him*
from all evil; to preserve *him* from all
temptations; to prosper *him* in *his*
lawful designs; and, in due season, to
return *him* in safety to *his* habitation
and friends: that *he* may have a fresh
occasion to praise thy name; and that
we may long live together, to enjoy
the pleasures of domestic life, and to
manifest our thankfulness for all thy
mercies.

THANKS-

T H A N K S G I V I N G

FOR A SAFE

RETURN FROM A JOURNEY.

O GOD, who upholdest our souls in life, and who only makest us to dwell in safety ! We offer unto thee our united thanks for thy great mercy unto thy *servant* [*servants*] whom thou hast preserved in journeying, and brought back to *his* habitation in peace. Thou hast defended *him* by thy providence from all evil. We rejoice in thy goodness, and give thanks unto thee with our whole hearts. May thy *servant* manifest *his* thankfulness to thee, by employing the life which thou hast preserved in a diligent obedience to thy commands ; and may we all live in dutiful subjection to thee our common Parent and Benefactor, and in love one towards another.

PRAYER

BEFORE CHILD-BEARING. 221

P R A Y E R

FOR A WOMAN DRAWING NEAR THE

TIME OF CHILD-BEARING.

O GOD, who art our refuge and strength, a present help in time of trouble! We beseech thee mercifully to regard thy servant, who is drawing near to the time of child-bearing. Take her under thine almighty protection; preserve her from all distressing fears; make her the joyful mother of a living child; and, in due season, restore her to health and strength; that she may long live to be a blessing to her family and friends, and to manifest her thankfulness for thy saving mercy.

THANKS-

T H A N K S G I V I N G

FOR A WOMAN AFTER

C H I L D - B E A R I N G .

ALMIGHTY God, our most gracious Preserver and bountiful Benefactor ! We offer unto thee our united thanksgivings, for thy great goodness to thy servant, whom thou hast delivered from the pains and dangers of child-bearing [and made the joyful mother of a living child.] Thou hast been merciful unto thy servant, and granted her deliverance in the time of trouble. May her heart be filled with unfeigned thankfulness unto thee her great Deliverer; and may she spend the

BIRTH OF A CHILD. 223

the remainder of her days in a cheerful obedience to thy commandments; that she may, at last, be a partaker of eternal glory and happiness, in the world to come.

THANKSGIVING

FOR THE

BIRTH OF A CHILD.

WE render thanks unto thee,
who art the Author of life,
and the Giver of all good things, for
the blessing which thou hast been graciously pleased to bestow upon this family, by the birth of a child. We receive *him* as the gift of thy bounty;
and

224 THANKSGIVING &c.

and we recommend *him* to thine almighty protection, and devote *him* to thy fear and service. In *his* infant days, may *he* be the charge of thy providence, and may *his* life be precious in thy sight. May *his* opening mind be enriched with useful knowledge, and adorned with amiable and virtuous dispositions. May *his* native innocence be preserved amidst the snares of the world, by the influence of wise instructions and good examples. May *he* long live to be happy in *himself*, a comfort to *his* parents, and useful in the world: and, finally, may *he* be trained up for everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A PRAYER

PRAYER

ON THE DEATH OF

ANY PERSON IN A FAMILY.

ETHERNAL GOD, without whose direction and providence nothing happeneth to us in life or death! Out of the depths of affliction and sorrow, unto thee do we lift up our souls; for our help and our hope are in thee.

OUR lives are in thy hands; and all our enjoyments are at thy disposal. Thou didst at first call us into life, by thy mighty power; and, when thou takest away our breath, we die, and
return

return to the dust. Thou changeſt our countenances, and bringeſt us down to the grave. When thou ſpeakeſt the word, we muſt go the way whence we ſhall not return, and the eye of him that hath ſeen us ſhall ſee us no more.

IN the miſt of life we are in death: to whom may we ſeek for ſuccour, but unto thee, O Lord, who changeſt not, and who haſt been the refuge of the children of men, in all generations! The Lord liveth; let our hearts rejoice; and let the God of our ſalvation be for ever exalted. Under all the troubles of this mortal life, thy mercy, which endureth for ever, is our confidence and joy. Firmly perſuaded, that, though clouds and darkneſs are round about thee, rightcouſneſs and judgment are the foundation of thy throne; and that thou wilt cauſe all things to work together for good; we
deſire

desire to submit to the present affliction with patience and resignation. We feel and we lament our loss; but we will humble ourselves under thy mighty hand. Behold thy servants, O Lord, do with us whatsoever seemeth good in thy sight: not our will, but thine be done. The Lord gave; and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord.

WE give thee unfeigned thanks for all the consolations which thou hast afforded us, under the loss of our friends, and the fears of our own dissolution, by the gospel of thy Son Jesus Christ, which hath brought life and immortality to light. We thank thee, that thou hast taught us to hope for a state of perfect rest, and endless felicity, beyond the grave; and hast promised unto all those, who persevere in well-doing, glory, honour, and eternal life. In this prospect our

Q 2

hearts

hearts are glad, and our lips rejoice. Thou wilt not leave our souls in the grave, nor suffer death to have dominion over us: thou wilt shew us the path of life; in thy presence is fulness of joy, and at thy right hand are pleasures for evermore. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to his abundant mercy, hath begotten us again, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to the lively hope of an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away.

TEACH us, O most gracious God, by the daily instances of mortality which are before our eyes, and particularly by the present awful event, to see how short and uncertain our abode on earth is, and so to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. May we spend the remainder of our time on earth in the faithful

DEATH OF A PERSON. 229

faithful discharge of our duty; and live in such a manner, as we shall wish to have done, when we come to die. Whatsoever our hand findeth to do, may we do it with all our might; since there is no work nor device in the grave, whither we are going. Give us grace so to follow the good examples of those, who have departed this life in thy faith and fear, that at length we may with them be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. May we glorify thee on earth, and finish the work which thou hast given us to do; that, when we shall leave this world, we may rest in peace; and that, being found acceptable in thy sight, we may be received into thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

T H E E N D.

DEATH OF A PERSON.

... of our duty, and live
... as we shall wish to
... when we come to die.
... our hand ready to do
... with all our might.
... there is no work not done in
... whether we are going.
... Give us grace to follow the good
... who have departed
... and rest, that at
... we may be perfect
... May we
... and finish the
... work which thou hast given us to do;
... that when we shall leave this world,
... we may rest in peace, and that being
... in thy light, we may
... be received into thy heavenly kingdom,
... through Jesus Christ our Lord and

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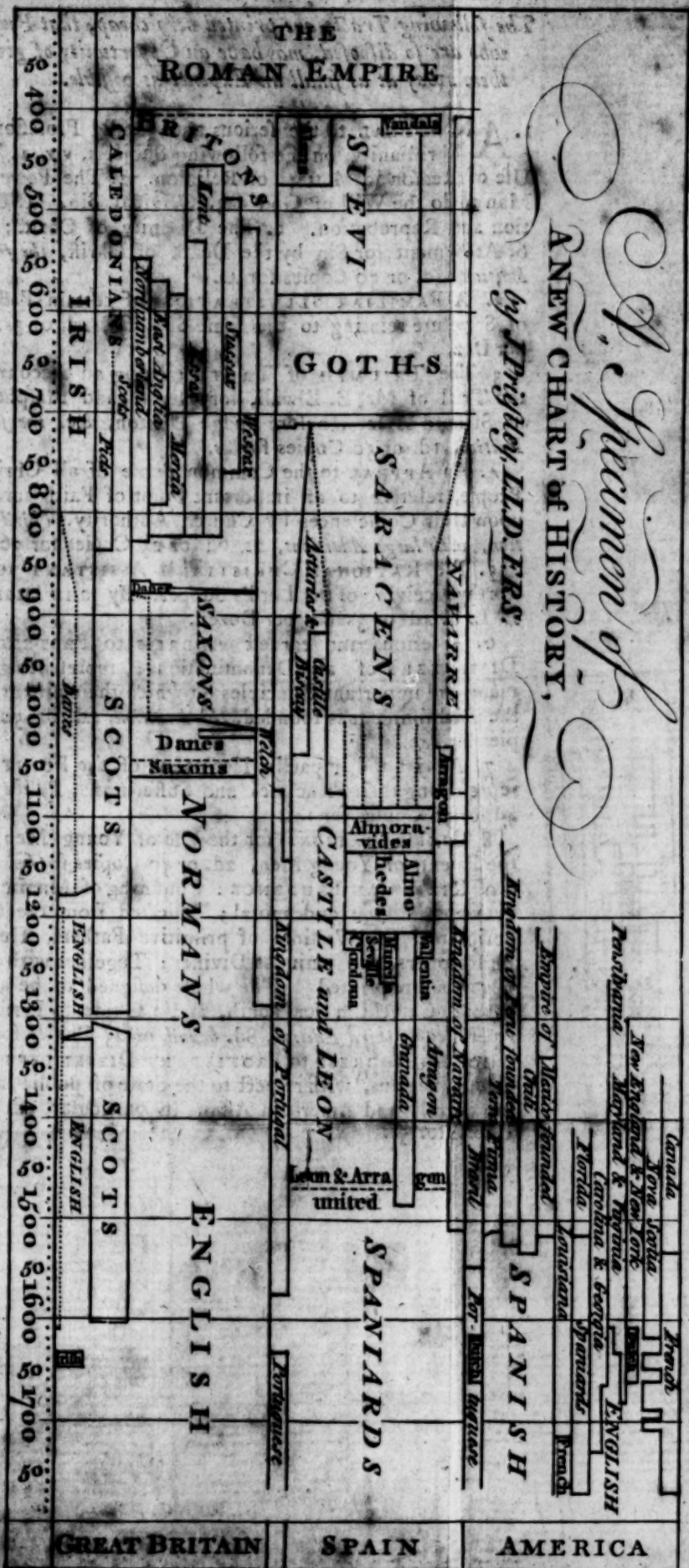
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